

F820 004-1583

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1-1330

14. wu n 12/16 6ex

FROM

1937 FEB 20 AM 9 01

Los Angeles Cal Feb 19 37

Mrs Shipley.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Please wire collect by Western Union
disposition passport matter immediately worried.

Dr Erben Care Errol Flynn Chateau Elysee Ap

439pm.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
PASSPORT SECTION

This search covers the Passport Bureau
records from 1906 to date only with result
"NO RECORD" is checked.

NO RECORD ()

NO RECORD ()

130

Erben, Hermann Frederick

APPLICATION GRANTED 1-16-37

IN ☒ YES
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OTHER PAPERS

TRY

No other record () years

CLERK CHARGED

03115087030

2/20/37
aka

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK THEODORE

F820 004 - 1584

COLLECT

DAY LETTER

February 19, 1937

Dr. Hermann F. Erben,
Care Errol Flynn,
Chateau Elysee,
5930 Franklin Avenue,
Hollywood, Los Angeles,
California.

Your passport at Passport Agency, Customhouse,
San Francisco. Agent being authorized by telegram
at your expense extend validity to December 7, 1937
and deliver to you upon surrender seaman's certificate.

Chief, Passport Division

130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD AJN ESB

0315587030

F820 004-1585

COLLECT

DAY LETTER

February 19, 1937

Mr. Somerset A. Owen, Passport Agent,
Customhouse, San Francisco, California.

Department's letter January twelve
Herman F. Erben. Extend passport to
December 7, 1937 and deliver to Dr. Erben
upon surrender seaman's certificate and
payment cost this telegram.

Chief, Passport Division

130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD AJN ESB

0315581030

F820 004-1586

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

1201-S

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

Received at 722 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. ALWAYS

93/ FEB 20 AM 1 03

SA23 32 NL 3 EXTRA=LOSANGELES CALIF 19

PASSPORT OFFICE=

ROOM 214 CUSTOMS HOUSE SFRA=

HERMAN ERVEN LEFT FOR NEWYORK TODAY RUSH BY-AIR MAIL
PASSPORT TO-PASSPORT OFFICE NEWYORKCITY WHERE SEAMANS.
CERTIFICATE WILL BE SURRENDERED ERVEN SAILING ON QUEEN MARY
THE TWENTY FOURTH=

ERROL FLYNN CHATEAU ELYSEE APARTMENTS.

THERE IS NO DEFENDABLE SUBSTITUTE FOR WESTERN UNION TIME

03115087030

Please make passport valid for all ~~EUROPEAN~~ ^{EUROPEAN} - 1507
 we intend to find out if Mr Flynn relates in
 Ireland and then go to Africa and possibly
 South America, or West Indies no definite
 plans ~~except to sail~~ ^{except to sail}
 Los Angeles.

1100 ROOMS - 800 BATHS
 POPULAR PRICES
 FREE BAKERS AND
 RAILWAY STATIONS



HART BROS. CO.
 DWIGHT H. HART
 President and Manager

Feb. 22nd from

NEW ROSSLYN HOTELS

CORNERS MAIN AND FIFTH STREETS
 LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

Wm Shipley:
 Chief, Passport Division
 Dept. of State.
 Wash. D.C.

2-17-37

Dear Madam:

May I Hermann Frederic Erben M.D.
 respectfully request to have my passport
 airmailed at my expense to my address:

Hermann F. Erben M.D.
 c/o Enrol Flynn
 Chateau Elysee
 5930 Franklin Av.

Hollywood, Los Angeles Cal.

I carried out your orders and
 handed in my American passport No

248504 at Buenos Aires, Argentina December

PRIVATE AUTO ENTRANCE DIRECT TO LOBBY
 THESE HOTELS CONNECTED BY MARBLE SUBWAY UNDER FIFTH STREET

130 - ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

193 (the american consulate.
 I asked the american consul to be so
 kind and have my passport forwarded
 to the passport agent in San Francisco
 Cal. as I am scheduled to go with my
 old friend Errol Flynn, the Warner Bros.
 star, abroad on an expedition, Feb. 22nd 1937.
 We intend to leave by air from Los Angeles
 for New York on Washingtons Birth day
 Feb. 22nd at 9th p. m. But as it will be necessary
 to secure visas, Mr Flynn intending me to
 sail with him on the Queen Mary, I am
 afraid, if I should pick up my passport
 in New York, I might not get the necessary
 visas in time. Therefore please, if it is
 permissible, forward my passport at my
 expense to Mr Flynn, with whom I am
 staying, or notify me to pick it up at the
 L. A. passport agency.

My passport, if I remember right was made
 valid for 6 months and expires this month.
 As I wrote you, I did not need same, as
 I went as shipwrecker on the ... Test
 Abroad. I am going to return the
 seamen's protection certificate No
 5290, which you sent me to Buenos Aires.

1100 ROOMS - 800 BATHS
POPULAR PRICES
FREE BUS TO AND FROM
RAILWAY STATIONS



HART BROS. CO.
DWIGHT H. HART
President and Manager

NEW ROSSLYN HOTELS

CORNERS MAIN AND FIFTH STREETS
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

*File
Dwight H. Hart
to passport
2-19-37*

As I am very much worried, this expedition with Enos Flynn being for my career of the greatest importance, on the other hand, my sad experience during the 1935 trans-asiatic expedition still vivid in my mind, please do help me with my passport. For I never again want to jeopardize the most precious thing I possess, my American citizenship. Please make my passport as long valid as legally possible, for our return is not fixed so far.

I would appreciate if you would wire at my expense, collect the decision, so that my suspense may be shortened.

Should it be impossible to attend my

now, please wire me if I still
pick some up in New York.

There still is a possibility that my pass-
port is in San Francisco, as I asked the
American Consulate in Buenos Aires, to
send it there. If it should be, please
grant retention and wire me at my
expense instructions.

Being with out my passport, when leav-
ing in New Orleans on February 4th 1937
see S.S. Delmonte, delayed my launching
for 3 days. But after all my delays as
to citizenship were proved true, I was
released. So you see I am just getting into
trouble, regardless how hard I try to keep
out.

I wish to go on record that the statements
I made in this letter are made under
oath to be true.

I wish to thank you in advance for your
kindness and please do wire at my expense
as time is short and I just am worried,
by my hard work, something again might
be wrong.

Very truly,
Yours,
Andy Brown

W. F. F. / Walter M. D.

F820 004-1591

In reply refer to
130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick

January 12, 1937

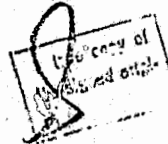
Dear Mr. Owen:

There is enclosed passport No. 248504 issued by the Department on December 7, 1935, to Hermann F. Erben, together with a copy of a despatch dated December 22, 1936, from the American Consul General at Buenos Aires, Argentina, which is self-explanatory.

If Dr. Erben should call at your office and request the return of his passport, it may be delivered to him upon the surrender of his seaman's certificate.

Sincerely yours,

R. B. SHIPLEY



Enclosures:
Passport No. 248504;
Copy of despatch.

Mr. Somerset A. Owen,

Passport Agent,

214 Customhouse,

San Francisco, California.



PD:JCE:ARP 1/11
arp 1/12

Enclosure

F820 004-1592

(COPY)

MC CORMICK STEAMSHIP COMPANY

Home Office
SAN FRANCISCO

S.S. "West Mahwah"
Bahia, Brazil
January 10, 1937

United States Consul General,
Rio de Janeiro,
Brazil.

Dear Sir:-

In accordance with your request please find enclosed various statements, charges and comments about Doctor H. Erben who paid off this vessel at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, at the Consulate in your presence.

These charges are made by all Officers of the vessel, with the exception of one, to show that said Doctor H. Erben did continuously and willfully interfere with the Officers' duties, create fear and uneasiness among passengers, and his conduct, majority of the time, was unbecoming to a loyal American and Ship's Officer.

We are happy to say at this time that there is a more peaceful condition throughout the vessel since the Doctor left the ship.

Very truly yours,

(signed) E. A. Jensen
Captain
(signed) H. A. Scott
First Officer
(signed) Alfred C. Aitken, Jr.
Second Officer
(signed) Milton H. Barber
Third Officer

(signed) H. McDowell
Chief Engineer
(signed) J. V. Owens
Second Assistant Engineer
(signed) D. A. Stanton
Third Assistant Engineer

Enclosures

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal

The following charges are made against Dr. H. Erben, Ship's Surgeon of the U.S. West Mahwah, by the Officers whose signatures are at the end of these papers.

- (1) The Officers' dining room was decorated with the American Flag for the Christmas Holidays, and on January 1, 1937, Dr. Erben was seen by Mr. Owens, Second Assistant Engineer, and Mr. McDowell, Chief Engineer, to have wiped his hands on the American Flag after taking food from the ice box.
- (2) Upon passing a German ship close enough to be recognized he was seen at various times to give the Nazi salute, by the Captain, First and Third Officers.
- (3) He stated, "We Germans look up to Hitler as a Supreme Being and Savior and anyone talking against Hitler I would crush and sink my teeth into his throat." -- as told to Mr. McDowell, Chief Engineer; Mr. Scott, First Officer.
- (4) He told Mr. Thompson, a passenger on this vessel, that should anything happen to him (Dr. Erben) to please notify the German Consul.
- (5) He quoted the following statement to Mr. Stanton, Third Assistant Engineer, and Mr. Aikens, Second Officer: "I am only an American citizen because of the material advantages. I am still a German and should war break out with Germany I would jump ship and head for Germany."
- (6) He boasted of the fact that he was implicated in the Dolphus murder to the Captain, Second Assistant Engineer, and Third Assistant Engineer.
- (7) He remarked that he and the crew were out to "get" the Third Assistant Engineer and the Second Officer because of the fact that they worked during the strike. -- As told to the Captain.
- (8) On the voyage from Buenos Aires to Rio de Janeiro he was continually annoying a lady passenger with remarks such as - "Your life is in danger - stay away from the railings of the ship as you will very likely be thrown overboard."
- (9) He told Mr. Gilfillan, a Fireman, that in spite of the fact that a Shore Doctor told him to remain on the ship and continue voyage, the Ship's Doctor told him that if he did not get off the ship he would receive neither treatment nor medicine.
- (10) He told the Second Assistant Engineer and Second Officer that as an M.D. he could and would pronounce any officer that he did not like drunk, and get away with it.
- (11) When asked by the Chief Officer when Sailor Rice could turn to, he replied: "I have to think about that and I think I had better go aft and see what the boys think about it."
- (12) He stated to the Chief Officer and Second Officer, "We always have someone nearby listening should anything be said against us."
- (13) He was repeatedly ordered by the Chief Officer to leave access to the medicine chest supplies. These orders were ignored.
- (14) Upon leaving San Francisco at the beginning of this voyage there were numerous surgical instruments aboard entrusted to the doctor's care. After the doctor left the vessel in Rio de Janeiro the Chief Officer checked the medical supplies but no instruments were found.
- (15) In his answers to charges made against him at the American Consulate at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on January 6, 1937, he made a statement to the effect that he knew nothing about a letter written to the Captain by the crew until this letter was shown to him by the Captain. This is a false statement because the Captain did not show any such letter to the Doctor.
- (16) While at the dinner table in the presence of a lady passenger the Doctor was heard to ask a very obscene question of Messrs. Norstrom as to his activities the night before by the Steward and Master Ralph Norstrom.

(Continued) - - Page 2.

(17) He made the remark to the Chief Engineer and Second Assistant Engineer that no life but his own was of any importance to him. This statement was also heard by the Third Assistant Engineer.

(18) During an argument between the Chief Cook and Crews' Messboy, the Doctor was seen by the Steward to go to his room and return on deck with a pistol.

(19) He has produced photostatic copies of letters written by the crew which had no bearing on his duties as Ship's Surgeon whatsoever. These photostatic copies were seen by the Captain, Chief Engineer, Second Assistant Engineer, and Third Officer.

(20) On January 5, 1937, about 7 P.M. the Doctor came to the Captain's office and made a false accusation that the Third Assistant Engineer had attacked him because he had reprimanded the Third Assistant Engineer for threatening to cut off the head of a child passenger. Nothing of the kind took place as was verified by the Cadet and the Second Cook.

(Signed) E.F. Jensen
Captain.

(Signed) H. McDowell
Chief Engineer.

(Signed) A.A. Scott
First Officer

(Signed) J.V. Owens
Second Assistant Engineer.

(Signed) Alfred C. Aitken, Jr.
Second Officer

(Signed) D.A. Stanton
Third Assistant Engineer.

(Signed) Milton H. Barber
Third Officer.

A true copy of
the signed original.
S/

0311507030

F820004-1595

November 13, 1936

To the American Consul General,
Buenos Aires, Argentina.

There is enclosed a copy of a letter which the Department has received from Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, who is in possession of a passport which is valid until February 26, 1937. You will note that Dr. Erben states that he will be in Buenos Aires soon.

It is requested that you advise Dr. Erben that if he is regularly employed as a ship surgeon and if he is in possession of a seaman's certificate he should forward his passport to the Department for filing until such time as he desires to go abroad as a passenger. If Dr. Erben has not obtained a new seaman's certificate you may deliver the attached certificate to him upon the surrender of his passport. If the certificate is not delivered to Dr. Erben it should be returned to the Department.

A true copy of
the original
is
R. S.

Enclosures:

Copy of letter;
Seaman's Certificate.

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD:AJN:AC 11/2

Mc Cormick Steamship Company

HOME OFFICE
SAN FRANCISCO

S. S. West Mahwah.

Canal Zone 10/13/35

RE: Dr H. F. Erdem
american passport N° 248504.

Sir:

I wish to go on record that I was unable to carry out my intention of going to Europe to settle the estate of my sister Mrs. Gertrude Schanck - Cohen, killed in a car accident on Aug. 7th. The reason was that I got only a limited passport and could take another chance of being mooned in Europe, as I was twice before. Furthermore my deportation from Austria has not been settled by Washington yet and naturally a restricted passport made it impossible for me to get a special permit to return. I therefore did not use the extension, which was stamped into my passport in New York, but will have to wait until my full citizenship rights will be restored and the deportation from Austria and British India removed by the Washington office.

I wish to thank you for your kindness in granting me the 6 months passport.

As I am ship surgeon on the S. S. West Mahwah, McCormick S. S. Line San Francisco Calif. Pacific Mail Steamship Company, I am now due back home until January 23rd 1937. You may reach me until Dec. 1st at the Hotel de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires. Kindly advise what you want me to do with my passport, which is in my possession.

my full citizenship rights and an unimpaired
 and I am proud to accept! For I don't want to again
 the role of being reported abroad and at the same
 time find myself very much alive, but with a valid
 country pass on my whereabouts to the American office,
 as I have made it a point, to keep his office posted of
 any change of address.

I am sorry for your kind offer to
 a big to museum most respect fully Yours

[Signature]

Dr H.F. Eber
 Livingston S.S. West Meador
 % Mc Cormick S.S. line
 Bureau show! here line

DIVISION OF COMMERCE AND MARINE
 PASSPORT SECTION
 This search covers the Passport Rec
 records from 1906 to date only when noted
 "NO RECORD" is checked.

936 OCT 22 PM 3 01
 PASSPORT DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
 130-801-416/33
 130-801-416/33
 130-801-416/33

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 10/18/34

NO OTHER RECORD () YEARS

F820 004 - 1598

248504
Dec 71935



RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
1936 AUG 28 AM 9 04

In reply refer to
130- Erben, Hermann Frederick

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
August 22, 1936

ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

Dear Mr. Hoyt:

78148

With reference to the Department's letter of May 9, 1936, concerning the case of Dr. Hermann F. Erben, there are enclosed a copy of a letter from Dr. Erben dated August 19, 1936, and a copy of the Department's reply thereto. You are authorized to extend Dr. Erben's passport for a period of six months from the date of his application for an extension. Dr. Erben should be informed that the Department is unwilling to extend the passport for a longer period at this time but that he may make application for a further extension at a Consulate abroad about two months before the date of the expiration of the passport. He should submit with the application, if any, for an extension abroad convincing evidence of the necessity for such extension.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures:
Copies of two letters.

Mr. Ira F. Hoyt,
Passport Agent,
Subtreasury Building,
New York, New York.

EXTENDED AT THE PASSPORT AGENCY, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, NEW YORK
AUG 26 1936
EXPIRES FEB 26 1937
IRA F. HOYT, Passport Agent.
By *Charles W. Harrison*

In reply refer to
130- Erben, Hermann Frederick

August 22, 1936

Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben,
507 West Street,
New York, New York.

My dear Dr. Erben:

The Department has received your letter of August 19, 1936, in regard to your desire to obtain an extension of passport No. 248504, which was issued on December 7, 1935, valid for three months only.

In this connection it is suggested that you call at the Passport Agency in the Subtreasury Building, Wall and Nassau Streets, New York, New York, where your passport may be extended for a period of six months from the date of your application. If it is necessary for you to be abroad for a longer period you should apply to an American consular officer for an extension of the passport about two months before the date of its expiration.

Sincerely yours,

031508

R. B. SHIPLEY

R. B. Shipley,
Chief, Passport Division

A true copy of
the signed original
na. 77

New York 8-19-1936

Dept. of State.
Passport Division.

FO20 004-1600

Wash. D. C.

Re: H.F. Erben M.D.
passport extension.

Sir:

A.H. Gill
Enclosed
to Mr. H. J. [unclear]
Aug 22 36

In today's mail I found the ~~for me~~ terrible news, that my younger sister Mrs. Gertrude Erben was killed in a motorcycle accident in Europe, on Friday August 7th 1936. In order to be able to sail for Europe immediately, I beg to extend my passport No 248504. Since I do not know how long my settling the estate will last and on the other hand, have been whilst here, preparing another scientific expedition to take me into Abyssinia I beg to extend my passport for its full length of time. It might be necessary for me to go from Europe right on to Africa since a useless trip to the U.S. if I am in Europe and intend to go to Abyssinia is a waste of time and money I haven't got.

(over)

130-ERBEN, HERMAN FREDERICK

Kindly advise me by return mail as you will understand I must make arrangements for my immediate departure. Also please notify the downtown passport office in New York, so that I may have my passport extended.

Thanking you in advance for an immediate answer

I beg to remain most respectfully

Yours

DIVISION OF COMMERCE
PASSPORTS

This Special Form is for use in connection with the records kept by the Division of Commerce, Department of State, for the purpose of recording the issuance of passports.

NO RECORD () YEARS

130 - Erben, Hermann Frederick

cor 579/36

APPLICATION

OTHER

130

Domestic
Data Ren.
Foreign
Foreign Reg.
Registration

12/4/35

H. F. Johnson, Jr.

507 West Street

New York City

1936 AUG 29 PM 3:39
PASSPORT DIVISION

RECEIVED

03051030

F820004-1602

New York 8-19-1936

Dept. of State.
Passport Division;
Wash., D. C.

Re: H. F. Erben M.D.
passport extension

Sir:

In todays mail I found the for me terrible news, that my younger sister Mrs. Gretl Luchanek-Erben was killed in a motorcycle accident in Europe, on Friday August 7th 1936. In order to be able to sail for Europe immediately, I beg to extend my passport No. 248504. Since I do not know how long my settling the estate will last and on the other hand, have been whilst here, preparing another scientific expedition to take me into Abessynia I beg to extend my passport for its full length of time. It might be necessary for me to go from Europe right on to Africa since a useless trip to the U. S. if I am in Europe and intend to go to Abessynia is a waste of time and money I havent got.

Kindly advise me by return special delivery mail as you will understand I must make arrangements for my immediate departure. Also please notify the downtown passport office in New York, so that I may have my passport extended.

Thanking you in advance for an immediate answer.

I beg to remain most respectfully,

Yours,

H. F. Erben M.D.
507 West Street
New York City

0315547030

F820 004 - 1603



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
130-Erben, Hermann Frederick

May 8, 1936

Dear Mr. Hoyt:

The Department on December 7, 1935, issued passport No. 248504, valid for three months, to Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, a naturalized citizen.

Dr. Erben recently called at the Department regarding a possible extension of his passport in view of the alleged possibility that it may be necessary for him to return to Germany in connection with court proceedings regarding one of his children. Dr. Erben was informed that when he is ready to go abroad his passport might be extended for a period of six months. Dr. Erben was going to New York for temporary residence and, if the circumstances so require, will make application to your office for extension. Accordingly, you are authorized

Mr. Ira F. Hoyt,

Passport Agent,

Subtreasury Building,

Wall and Nassau Streets,

New York, New York

- E820 004-1604

authorized to extend Dr. Erben's passport for a period
of six months from the date of his application if he
submits convincing evidence that he is going abroad.

Sincerely yours,

AS Shipley

0315587030

PASSPORT DIVISION

May 9, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE

CASE OF HERMANN FREDERICK ERBEN

Dr. Erben called at the Department in the afternoon of May 8 and I advised him of the substance of Mrs. Shipley's decision. Dr. Erben was very much displeased that the Department was unwilling to grant him an extension of his passport at the present time and talked along his usual lines for some time. Dr. Erben stated that if he should receive a cablegram from his wife regarding his son's case, it might be necessary for him to leave for Germany at once and that the delay in obtaining an extension of his passport might cause him to miss the first available boat. I told Dr. Erben that he could obtain an extension of his passport which I returned to him at the Passport Agency at New York upon a telephonic authorization of the Department. Dr. Erben thought that even this delay might cause him to lose a boat, especially if he received a cablegram shortly before the closing time of the Passport Agency on Saturday. He requested that a letter regarding the conditions under which he might obtain an extension be sent to Mr. Hoyt in order that there would be no unnecessary delay.

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD:AJN:ERH

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

MM

Mr. Scanlan and I feel
that this man has
been in so much trouble
and has used such
irregular travel documents
that we should keep in touch
with him. When he is ready to go
abroad.

let him
submit
his ff
and we
will give
him 6
mos at
a time.

RS,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PASSPORT DIVISION

May 8, 1936.

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

Dr. Hermann F. Erben called at the Department this morning and requested the extension of his passport which was recently sent in to the Department by the American Consul General at Berlin, Germany. As you will recall, Dr. Erben's passport was issued on December 7, 1935, and was valid for three months only.

Dr. Erben states that his future plans are indefinite but that proceedings are still pending in the German Courts regarding the sterilization of his oldest son and that if the decision goes against his son, he will receive a cablegram from his wife and he wants to go to Germany immediately in that event to prosecute an appeal to a higher court. Dr. Erben stated that he also had a chance to obtain a temporary position escorting the ruler of Afghanistan from Europe to Afghanistan. He has made application for the position but does not know whether he will be able to obtain it. Dr. Erben had in his possession documents in German which appeared to relate to the court case.

Dr. Erben stated that he had been endeavoring for some time to obtain employment as a ship's physician or

0315581030

a

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

MM

F020004-1606

- 2 -

a position in a hospital but that all of his efforts so far have been unsuccessful. He stated that he would accept work of any kind, even if it only paid him \$25 a month above his room and board.

Dr. Erben stated that he was under suspicion wherever he travelled in Europe because of the information given out by the Narcotic Service and that because of this report he had been expelled from Austria, his native country and could not return thereto. An agent of the Narcotic Service had trailed him from Baltimore where he recently landed. However, Mr. Spruks informed me a few minutes ago that the Narcotic Service had not obtained any further information regarding Dr. Erben's alleged illegal activities.

Although Dr. Erben's character may not be above reproach, nothing has been proven against him although the Narcotic Service has had him on its confidential list since July 1, 1933, and he has been more or less under surveillance since that date. His action in obtaining a second passport before the expiration of the validity of his first one and his use of a seaman's certificate in conjunction with a passport have been explained in at least a plausible manner and the seaman's certificate has been surrendered to the Department. In the circumstances I would recommend the extension of Dr. Erben's passport to be valid to December 7, 1937.

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick
PD:AJN:ERH



F820 004-1608

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PASSPORT DIVISION

May 8, 1936

Mrs. S. Henley:

Dr. Erben has been in again
and wants an extension of
his passport for possible use
in returning to Germany in
connection with son's case. Will
explain in more detail.

He is going now to Narcotics office
and will return at 2:30 p.m.

[Signature]

03 JUN 10 1936



To the American Consul General,
Berlin, Germany.

April 10, 1936

The Department has received your despatch No. 855 of March 18, 1936 concerning the case of Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben.

There are enclosed for your information copies of letters from Dr. Erben, dated January 28, 1936, March 14, 1936 and March 16, 1936 and a copy of the Department's instruction of February 25, 1936 to the American Consul General at Vienna, Austria.

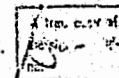
If Dr. Erben is able to show by the presentation of documentary evidence that his presence in Germany is necessary in connection with the law proceedings mentioned in his letter of January 28, 1936 you are authorized to extend his passport for an appropriate period of time. If it appears that Dr. Erben's residence in Germany is not in connection with the law proceedings in question, you are requested to so inform the Department and to retain possession of his passport awaiting instructions from the Department regarding its disposition.

Enclosures:

Copy of this instruction.
Copy of instruction to
American Consulate General
at Vienna, Austria, Febru-
ary 25, 1936.
Copies of three letters from
Dr. Erben.

150 - Erben, Hermann Frederick

ED RVE ESB 4/6



AMERICAN EXPRESS

AMERICAN EXPRESS TRAVELERS CHEQUES
THE MONEY OF THE WORLDITORS WRITING ROOM
(NOT OFFICIAL)

(AT) Berlin 3-16-36

Dept. of State, passport Division
Washington D.C.

I crossed the austro-german border this morning presenting my american passport for valider cancellation (the custom official cancelled the entry on the last page) and my affidavit with my 14 day german visa. I have written to the U.S. consulate in Berlin from Vienna asking if my extension has been granted. But since I have not received an answer I fear same has not been granted. I shall appear tomorrow at the american consulate to find out whether or not I should again apply for an extension or hand in my passport and continue

0315087030

on my affidavit, since due to the expiration of my passport, this affidavit automatically has become my legal travel document.

I hope my presence in court on behalf of my elder boy won't be necessary any more and then I intend to embark for home within the next week. I am glad that I followed your advice and took this affidavit along with me, since without it, it would have been impossible to cross the German border and appear in court.

Most respectfully Yours

ADIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

F. J. [Signature]

1936 MAR 27 AM 11 33

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

RECORDED

F820 004-1613

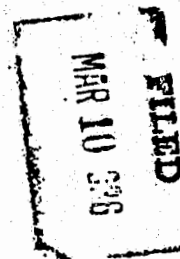
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PASSPORT DIVISION

*File
3/7/36
ERU*

**American Doctor
Expires in Calcutta**

CALCUTTA, March 7 (I.N.S.).
A Dr. Erben, Vienna physician be-
lieved to have connections in Chi-
cago, died in Waltham Hospital here
today after being found uncon-
scious by a servant on a special
train traveling from Calcutta to
Madras. Dr. Erben was traveling
with a party of 45 American stu-
dents.

Dr. Erben



130- ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

0315087030

NOTED IN PD BUREAU
 II D/HK - *Marked*

To the American Consul General,
 Vienna, Austria.

February 25, 1936

The Department has received your despatch No. 1811 of January 8, 1936, concerning the arrest of Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben by the police at Vienna,

For your information there is enclosed herewith a copy of a communication which the Department has recently received from Dr. Erben setting forth his desire for an extension of passport No. 248564 which was issued to him on December 7, 1935, to be valid until March 7, 1936.

You are authorized to extend the passport of Dr. Erben until May 7, 1936, thus covering the period mentioned in the Austrian certificate which accompanied his communication to the Department, a translation of which is also enclosed. Thereafter, you may, upon presentation of satisfactory documentary evidence by Dr. Erben to show that his continued residence in Vienna is required in connection with the proceedings which have been instituted against him, extend his passport from time to time as may be needed, notifying the Department in each instance. The Department desires to be kept advised as to Dr. Erben's whereabouts and as to his activities.

Enclosures:

Copy of communication from Dr. Erben; & translation of Austrian certificate.

100- Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD:RAB:SLJ 2/24 *OTJ*

F820004-1615

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PASSPORT DIVISION

Mr. Overstein
Mr. Cowley
To draft
according to
Mr. Scullion's

February 18, 1936. *memo*

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

As it is more than unlikely that Dr. Erben would surrender his passport if an extension were not granted to him, I think it would be just as well to grant him an extension for a short period if the Consul General at Vienna is convinced of his allegations concerning pending cases in court. The Consul General might be instructed to extend his passport for a period of two months from the present date of expiration, which would make his passport valid to May 7, 1936, thus covering the period mentioned in the Austrian certificate. Thereafter the Consul General might be authorized to extend the passport from time to time upon receipt of documentary evidence that the continued presence abroad of Dr. Erben is necessary. In this way the Department could be advised from time to time of Dr. Erben's whereabouts and to some extent as to his activities.

RECEIVED
FEB 24 1936

130-
ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD: JJS: MVD

03 JAN 27 1936

PASSPORT DIVISION

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

2/14/36

Dr. Erben writes from Vienna requesting an extension of the ppt which was recently issued to him valid for three months. I note he had agreed to return his ppt to the Dept within 3 months after the date of its issue.

Do you feel that the Consul at Vienna should be authorized to extend Dr. Erben's ppt for a limited period of perhaps 6 or 9 months or do you want him turned down. There is no accurate recital in the files of his foreign res. since his nat and it seems he should be asked for a statement in regard thereto to complete our records. It appears clear however that the prescription has not arisen against him and will not arise for some time hence.

RNT

0315087030

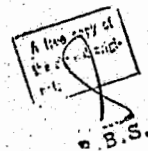
F820004-1617

January 30, 1936

To the American Consul General,
Vienna, Austria.

The Department has received your despatches
Nos. 1796 and 1811 of December 10, 1935, and January 8,
1936, respectively, concerning the case of Doctor Her-
mann Frederick Erben.

While the Department does not, of course, approve
of the issue of letters similar in nature to that given
to Doctor Erben it sees no objection to the continued
use of the form letter which your office has been fur-
nishing to American citizens who desire to obtain visas
for Egypt, France, Poland or Spain.



130- Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD PWH BTW 1/27

011507000

WE
Res.

Albion, N.Y.

Agent of State, James J. Donovan

Washington, D.C.

R.H.H.

Receipt for an extension of the period of validity of my passport No 248504.

I last returned to the U.S.A. on the 15th of May 1935 and the 1st of June 1936.

My present in Berlin at a housing at the American Legation.

on March 26, 1936 on behalf of my children is returned to the U.S.A. on the 1st of June 1936.

My present in Berlin at a housing at the American Legation.

on March 26, 1936 on behalf of my children is returned to the U.S.A. on the 1st of June 1936.

My present in Berlin at a housing at the American Legation.

on March 26, 1936 on behalf of my children is returned to the U.S.A. on the 1st of June 1936.

My present in Berlin at a housing at the American Legation.

on March 26, 1936 on behalf of my children is returned to the U.S.A. on the 1st of June 1936.

is not against my expectations, my ^{F620004-1649} based
official part of my necessary presence in Berlin
or Vienna on behalf of my children, not be
anted, kindly advise me what to do, as it is not
possible to send a colored representative, my personal
appearance being requested.

in with so many depress and even that these
instruments are true to the best of my belief.
I am not forwarding my passport, as I need same
and hope it will be possible for the department
minister at the American consul in Vienna to
change my passport.

Vienna 1-28-1936.

MARINEARZT
Dr. med. Hermann F. Erben M.D.
Wien, III. Ardenberggasse 19
Tel. B 55-8-24.

H. F. Erben M.D.

III. Ardenberggasse 19.

documentary proofs of
proving how easy regarding
my personal presence.

P
2/10

130. Erben, Hermann Frederick

1936 FEB 11 PM 1 02

F820 004-1620

*File
open
2-3-36*

To the American Consul General,
Vienna, Austria.

December 28, 1935

*Meis
593.112-100000*

The Secretary of State refers to previous correspondence in regard to Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben, No. 249 on the Confidential List of persons suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs, and informs the Consul General that passport No. 248,504, valid for a period of three months, was issued to Erben on December 7, 1935.

The Department has been informed that Doctor Erben sailed from the Port of New York on December 9, 1935, on the steamship SARCOXIE, to visit his mother in Vienna.

A true copy of
the signed origi-

R.P.S.

130 Erben, Hermann Frederick

RECORDED
INDEXED
FEB 1 1936
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

12/27/35

F820 004-1621

NOTED IN PD SUBJECT FILE

~~CONFIDENTIAL - STAFF USE ONLY~~

December 28, 1935

To the American Consul General,
Berlin, Germany.

The Secretary of State informs the Consul General at Berlin that on December 7, 1935, an American passport, valid for a period of three months, was issued to Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben, No. 249 on the Confidential List of persons suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

The Department has been informed that Doctor Erben sailed from the Port of New York on December 9, 1935, on the steamship SARCOXIE, having announced his purpose to visit his mother in Vienna, and also to go to Germany to secure the release of his sons, who, he alleged, are citizens of that country and are detained in a concentration camp.

The records of the Department indicate that Doctor Erben has been in Austria at various times, where he apparently has had minor difficulties with the police.

There has been considerable correspondence between the Department and the Consulate General at Vienna in regard to Erben's passport. On August 8, 1934, Erben made application for an American passport at the Consulate General at Vienna, at which time he stated that he had lost his previous passport, issued to him on November 15, 1930, and renewed at San Francisco on January 10, 1933.

The

FB20004-1627

-2-

The Consulate General was authorized to issue an American passport valid only for Erben's return to the United States. Subsequently, Doctor Erben obtained a duplicate Seaman's Protection Certificate, which he used to travel to India, as a member of a so-called "Austro-American Trans-Asiatic Expedition", whose route lay through Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan. Upon arrival in India, he was arrested for having a revolver and cartridges in his possession without a license. Subsequently, Doctor Erben was ordered deported from India and arrived in New York on November 22, 1935. He proceeded to Washington, where a limited passport, No. 248504, was issued to him, pending final settlement of questions concerning his citizenship. At that time, he executed an undertaking to return this passport within three months from December 7, 1935.

It appears that Doctor Erben has been involved in minor difficulties with local officials in the various countries which he has visited and that his eccentric behavior has at times caused embarrassment to American consular officers.

A true copy of
the record on file

R.R.S.

130 Erben, Hermann Frederick

FE:HCS:AT

FE

PD

12/27/35

F820004-1623

C O P Y

Here appears photograph
in ship uniform and bearing
following stamp: Marinearzt
Dr. med. Hermann F. Erben,
M.D. Wien, III, Arenberg-
ring 19, Tel. B 55-8-24

Washington)
District of Columbia) SS

I, Hermann Frederick Erben, solemnly swear that I
was born in Vienna, Austria, on November 15, 1897; that
I emigrated to the United States in March of 1924; that
I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States be-
fore the District Court of the United States at San
Francisco, California, on November 10, 1930; that I de-
sire to travel in all states of the world; that be-
cause of considerable foreign residence since my
naturalization, and other circumstances, I am unable to
obtain an American passport at this time; that this
document is, therefore, desired to be used in traveling
to the countries just mentioned; that a photographic
likeness of myself is affixed hereto, and that my
personal description is as follows:

Here appears photograph
with beard.

Height: 6 feet

Hair: blond

Eyes: blue

Distinguishing marks: Scar,
right thumb and left cheek

(Sgd.) Dr. Hermann F. Erben M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 6 day of
December 1935.

(Sgd.) Thos. P. Hickman

My Commission Expires Nov. 16, 1937.

My Commission Expires Nov. 16, 1937

0910587030

(SEAL)

F820004-1624

G.O.P.H.

(Form U.S. Government Printing Office: 1934 53915)

UNITED STATES (SEAL) OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Washington, D. C., December 6, 1935

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME, GREETING:

I CERTIFY That Thomas P. Hickman,
whose name is signed to the accompanying paper, is
now, and was at the time of signing the same, a Notary
Public in and for the District of Columbia, duly com-
missioned and qualified.

(SEAL)

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I, Homer S. Cummings,
Attorney General of the United States have
hereunto caused the Seal of the Department
of Justice to be affixed and my name to be
subscribed by the Appointment Clerk of the
said Department on the day and year first
above written.

(Sgd.) Homer S. Cummings

Attorney General

By: (Sgd.) Chas. B. Sornborger

Appointment Clerk

0315587030

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

PASSPORT DIVISION

December 11, 1935.

Memorandum -

See pg.

A Mrs. Cavanaugh, who said that she was employed in the Interior Department, called to ask me if I could tell her when Doctor Erben returned to the United States and also whether he was a German or an American. She said she wanted the information in connection with a clue in a murder case and I asked where and she said the Loring murder case. I told her that I could not give out any information contained in the file to her other than to say that Doctor Erben was an American citizen. I referred her to the New York Times for November to get the exact date ^{on which he was a passenger} the vessel was said to arrive or dock at New York. She asked me whether or not I knew whether he was a spiritualist as she had a vision connecting a redheaded ~~and~~ redbearded man with the Loring murder and she felt she had to go tell the police about it. I told her that I doubted very much Doctor Erben was a spiritualist and that I would cooperate fully with the police if they cared to come see me about anything in my files concerning Doctor Erben. She said she had met Doctor Erben and had had quite a talk with him and she had connected him up with her vision.

RS. *Plz*

F820004-1626

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

III Arenberggring 19

At Sea 12-19-35

Mr. Fred W. Jandrey
U. S. Vice Consul
Calcutta.

Sir:

I am taking great pleasure in informing you, that on December 7th 1935 the Dept. of State in Washington has issued me U. S. Passport No. 248504. After the most minutest investigation of my record, I have thus been able to regain my full American citizenship rights, expressed by the issuing of the above mentioned passport. As far as humanly possible, I have squared myself of the loathsome suspicions, which, as I only in Washington found out, dated back to several years. Anyhow my task is not by a long way complete yet. I am on my way to London and Vienna, to run down with all legal methods and up to my last penny, the blackmailers that in the last sense are responsible for my months of humiliation and misery, arrests, sentences and even deportation. The Department of State has been very kind in returning my seamans book, so that I will be now able to follow up my passport difficulties in Calcutta, despite of the fact, that I secured visas by the authorities in Vienna, Palestine, Iraque, Iran, Afghanistan and British India. -

Very unfortunately you did not enclose but one, of the three consular letters, in your shipment to Washington. I was granted the privilege to with my own eyes see the enclosure note of your report, mentioning but my seamans book and the one letter from Mr. Stewart in Vienna. For that reason they are not in my possession yet. Will you therefore be kind enough to forward these 2 letters at your earliest convenience to me, as I might need them some times, in following up my case. It sure is a pity you did not also enclose them, because then I would have them now just as I have my book, returned by the Dept. of State. In as much as you did not send them to Washington, they have obviously no bearing on my case and since Washington has returned my property, I beg you to be kind enough, to do the same. By same mail I have informed Mr. Evans of my results in squaring myself and regaining my honest name, and asking him to return if possible now my gun, that is of so great sentimental value to me. If you would be inclined to assist this application for return, since I have partly succeeded in squaring myself, I am sure it would help a lot. Anyways I can promise you, that I wont rest until I have with legal methods regained in full my honest name. Thats what I am on my way to do, to the very bitter end. Thanking you for your return of my letters at your earliest convenience, I beg to remain,

Most respectfully yours,

Sd/- H. F. Erben, K. D.

0311070311

Age Group	Percentage
18-24	18.5
25-34	22.5
35-44	19.5
45-54	17.5
55-64	15.5
65-74	13.5
75-84	11.5
85+	9.5

on both sides of the application are true and that the photograph attached

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

I, the undersigned, do hereby swear that I am a citizen of the United States, and that I take this obligation freely, without any

(Signature of Applicant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 4 day of Dec, 1935

[SEAL OF COURT]

Clerk of the Court at

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

Height: 6 feet, inches. Age: years.

Hair: Blond

Eyes: Blue

Distinguishing marks or features: Scar Right Wrist & Left Cheek

Place of birth: Australia

Date of birth: November 15, 1897

Occupation: Ship Surgeon

I intend to leave the United States from the port of N.Y.

sailing on board the (Name of ship) ON Dec 9, 1935

ADDRESS

I request that my passport be mailed to the following address: 550 6th St. N.Y.C.

Name: (Name of witness)

No. and Street: (Residence address of witness)

City and State: (Residence address of witness)

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereon; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made herein by the applicant are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further, I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for years.

If witness has been issued a passport, give number and date of issue or approximate date of issue.

No. Date of issue.

No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his services in connection with the execution of the application or obtaining the passport.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this day

of 1935

Clerk of the Court

at

[SEAL OF COURT]



Two photographs (duplicates) are required; one to be affixed to the application in the space designated above, and the other, bearing the signature of the applicant, to accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used if more than one person is to be included in the passport. Photographs must be on thin paper, should have a light background and be not over 3 by 3 inches nor less than 2 1/4 by 2 1/4 inches in size.

The certificate of naturalization of the applicant or of the person through whom he claims citizenship must accompany this application, unless a previous passport is submitted in lieu thereof. If American-born wife is included in the application and the marriage occurred on or after September 22, 1922, her birth or baptismal certificate should be submitted with the application, or if the birth was not recorded, affidavits from attending physician, parents, or other persons having sufficient knowledge to enable them to verify as to the date and place of the birth should be submitted. If the wife required American birth in the Passport Regulations should be submitted.

PASSPORT DIVISION

Statement as regards to return of
 passport after 3 months.

I herewith agree to return my
 American passport No 248504
 to the dept. of state within 3
 months from this date.

H. F. Johnson M.D.

12-7-35.

Subscribed & sworn to before
 me this 7th day of Dec. 1935.
 C. C. Barker

0315587030

FB20-004-1630

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PASSPORT DIVISION

December 7, 1935.

Memo:

Service Record, Marine Service Bureau,
Number 81610, returned to Dr. Erben upon delivery
of passport issued this date.

This Service Record shows that in each instance
of discharge from vessels, that ability and conduct
have been noted as "very good."

Barker.

RECORDED

PASSPORT DIVISION

Statements as regard to usage of austrian
passports:

My old austrian passport that I used prior to my naturalization was valid for my two children Santos & Curt Erben. Same has never been used by me after my naturalization as an american citizen. As my boys needed it, being up to 1834 austrian subjects I kept same, in my safe in the folder of the childrens documents. Same was returned to me by the austrian police, after they had satisfied themselves that I had not used it for myself, but that it was used by my boys. I had it cancelled since my boys have since then obtained the german citizenship.

19381030

The foreigners travel document was

thly procured for me by ^{F820004-1637} Stewart
American consul in Vienna. He gave me
a letter to the austrian passport division
asking them to issue me a foreigners
passport for travel in Europe. Same
was granted on December 18th 1834. The
onset of illness of my boy Curt, prevented
me to use this travel document for
the times trip to Berlin 1834 for which
purpose it was issued. It has never been
used and was handed in at the American
consulate in Calcutta September 1835.

The only austrian travel document
that I ever had to use since I became
an american is the passport Mr. Ehlers
issued in the emergency in Teheran
on Wednesday June 26th 1835.
Into this document was entered by the
afghan minister in Teheran the entrance
visa for Afghanistan ~~which I have~~ used
it only to cross the Russian - afghan

PASSPORT DIVISION

border; I left Afghanistan already
via my American passport document.
This one Austrian document being the
only ^{foreign} one I used since my naturalization
was also handed in at the American
consulate in Sept 1935 in Calcutta.

This passport was issued in an emergency
in full cognizance by the Austrian as well
as Afghan minister that I am an American
citizen to overcome the technical difficulty
of affixing an Afghan visa. The entire
expedition being at stake and depending
on my permit to enter Afghanistan.

Apart from this one time I never
used, applied for or accepted an Austrian
passport.

Since my naturalization I always
registered as an ~~American~~ citizen at

the Austrian police. Applied in court
showing my divorce as an American citizen.

FB20004-1634

Attached please find a statement that
I can not have again obtained Austrian
Citizenships, since naturalisation in
Austria is limited to a special
presidential decree in cases of men
called in by the Austrian Government
for special work, their citizenships being
bestowed upon them in the public
interest only. Whilst all ordinary
naturalisation has been stopped in
Austria.

To show that I consider it an honor
to be an American citizen I have also
attached letter by my commanding officer
when I applied for enrollment in the
United States Naval reserve.

H. F. [Signature] Men M. I.
Sworn to before me this 6th
day of December 1935.
[Signature]
Agent of the Department of State.

PASSPORT DIVISION

Statement as regards to political activity:

I have never in my life at any time or any place actively engaged in politics of any sort. I have never been a member of any political body, society, party, at any time or at any place. I have never independently and on my own carried on any political propaganda neither in word nor in publications in this country or abroad. I have been arrested in Vienna on November 19th 1934 on the street at 10⁴ a.m. in the morning for being unable to produce a passport and substantiate my claim to American citizenships. I was released after 3 days having satisfied the Austrian authorities in full, that I am a naturalized American citizen. That I am not

in any way ~~is~~ need ^{FBI 004-1636} of political
activity what or was. A search of my
home in Vienna, revealed no prohibited
literature and the 6 Revolvers found
on my premises, all covered by arms li-
censes duly procured, were returned to
me. Also the ammunition taken home
from the world war, was returned.

Hermann F. J. J. J. M. D.
Sworn to before me this 6th
day of December 1935

Thomas C. Reid
Agent of the Department of State

0315087030

PASSPORT DIVISION

Statement as regards complying with
registration requirements when abroad:

I entered Austria May 22, 1931 for the first time after being naturalized and registered at the U.S. Consulate the same day.

I entered Austria the second time on August 19th 1932 and registered 3 days later on Aug. 22nd 1932.

I entered Austria the third time on June 22nd 1933 and registered immediately at the American consulate. The registry was entered on December 23rd 1933.

Herewith I have proven that I always presented myself immediately at the consulate after arriving abroad.

and claims, maintained and
registered my american citizenship.

820 004-1638

H. F. John M. D.

031507030

Explaining the possession of Austrian Travel Documents.

F820 004-1639

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

PASSPORT DIVISION

As my explicit question in my application for passport renewal to the Dept. of State in January 1935 ~~and~~ if not immediate return to the U.S. would jeopardize my citizenship, was not answered in the affirmative, I undertook to go on the Austro-American Transsiberian Expedition on my American seaman's protection certificate. I had been waiting for such an opportunity for years, had prepared myself and specialized in tropical medicine and had invested 500.00 \$ cash, and as, as above mentioned my non return would not jeopardize my citizenship, I after also consulting Mr. Dickinson, sailed without an American passport. The seaman's protection certificate was accepted in the countries I crossed until I reached Tilsen. There the Austrian consul, who was kind enough to take my seaman's certificate personally up to the Afghan consul, returned same to me without the visa he had been trying to get for me. The Afghan minister refused to issue this American seaman's protection certificate. Inasmuch as I had been carrying on postgraduate medical work at the University of Vienna, I fell under the group of foreigners, who according to Austrian as well as German law enjoy Austrian or German citizenship on the basis of their University connection. This law is known

FB20004-1849

as the means of ~~complying~~ with the requirements of citizenship rights in order to practice medicine in Austria. Under this provision the austrian consul although well aware that I am now an American citizen, was entitled to grant me an austrian passport, which the Afghan consul visased, also well aware of the fact, that I am a naturalized American, because he had my documents, showing my american citizenship in his office. Under the circumstances and maintaining before all officials concerned, that I am an american citizen, I availed myself of this provision of the austrian law, to which I was entitled as connected with the University of Vienna medical school.

I feel therefore that by doing so, I never held myself out as an austrian, to the contrary, I entered as an American, with my afghan visa, entered into an austrian passport. In Kabul already I got my british visa to leave Afghanistan, on my american travel documents. I reported the possession and deposited with the american consul in Calcutta this austrian passport, immediately upon arrival. There being no american consul between Teheran and Calcutta I ~~could not~~ report and deposit same sooner.

PASSPORT DIVISION

Mr Stewart American consul in Vienna also had procured for me an Austrian Travel document on December 18th 1934 for Travel in Europe, since the State department had not granted a passport other than for my immediate return. Mr Stewart feeling that I had to go to Germany and seeing in this Austrian Travel document, which he officially procured for me, the only means to cross the Austrian border.

I, that much more felt entitled to use this Austrian passport given to me by Mr Elders in Tehran, as the American consul in Vienna had procured for me an Austrian aliens Reise document, previously. So what certainly was and must have been legal in Vienna on December 18th 1934, I felt could not be illegal in Tehran in July 1935.

I therefore deposited both Austrian Travel documents the Austrian aliens Travel document and the Tehran passport at the American consul in Constantinople.

As regards to the Austrian passport found in my belongings in Vienna. I wish to state

Austrian passports are good for 5 years. This one had been issued to me prior to my naturalization.

As children under 15 years are entered on their
father's passport my boys were entered on their
passport. They both being ^{foreigners} at that time,
they used same, when I took my younger boy with
me to France and Italy in 1932. I travelled on
my american passport and my boy had to travel
on his old austrian passport, where he was entered,
since, he is not an american citizen.

This passport has been since 1934 cancelled when
my two boys became german citizen. They now
are holding their own german passports.

As regards to the reported loss of my american passport
No 9486 I wish to state that in giving up my 8 room
flat in Austria when my children went with
their mother to ^{Germany} ~~Germany~~ it had by error slipped
into some case and when I missed it and
couldn't find it, I thought it lost. As it turned
up during a search of my apartment by the police
I immediately upon regaining my freedom,
having been in police custody at the time, repor-
ted to the American consul, that my affidavit
having lost this passport, was erroneous, and
that it had shown up. I had it immediately
cancelled, as it was expired anyways and the consul
returned it to me.

Washington D.C.

H. F. J. Ben M.D.

SWORN TO BEFORE
ME - 4th Dec, 1935.

A. B. Hansen

AFFIDAVIT TO EXPLAIN PROTRACTED FOREIGN RESIDENCE AND TO OVERCOME PRESUMPTION OF NONCITIZENSHIP

An American citizen who has resided abroad for many years is required, when making application for a passport, to submit an affidavit stating the cause of his protracted foreign residence; his present ties of family, property, or business within the United States; how often he has made visits to the United States; whether he pays the American income tax, if subject thereto; and what intention he has of returning to the United States permanently to reside and perform the duties of citizenship which are reciprocal with the right to protection.

I, Hermann Frederic Cohen M.D., a ^{native}_{naturalized} and loyal American citizen, do solemnly swear that I ceased to reside in the United States on or about the 11. January 1933 day of January, 1933; that I have since that date resided temporarily abroad

(Name countries visited and periods of residence in each during sojourn abroad)

at Vienna Austria in 1931 from end of May to beginning of June, in 1932 from end of August to end of October 1932 and from June 22, 1933 to April 20, 1935 3 times 10 days, 2 1/2 months and 22 months respectively.

my reasons for such foreign residence being as follows:

I. Visit of my old mother for 10 days in 1931
II. Accompanying my wife to Europe who was with patient and had to leave the U.S. being her on temporary visit to U.S., using my \$ line for length of 3 months for that. III. Obtain a divorce from Mrs. Cohen and again for my 2 boys the German citizenship which legal procedures took 22 months

After establishing a ^{temporary}_{permanent} residence abroad I made the following visits to the United States:

Several as ship surgeon on the \$ liner S.S. Pres. Garfield.
and on Nov. 22nd, 1935 I last arrived in the United States and I am now ^{temporarily}_{permanently} residing at 550 West 20th Street New York City

I have ^{not since my naturalization as an American citizen}_{never} been naturalized, taken an oath of allegiance, or voted as a foreign citizen or subject, or in any way held myself out as such. * also at the time when entering

I maintain the following ties of family, business, and property with the United States: I am licensed to practice in the States of Louisiana since 1929, Washington since 1928, California since 1930 and pay my annual registration fee. I stated my citizenship when I entered.

I ^{do}_{do not} pay the American Income Tax at.....

I intend to return to the United States permanently to reside and to perform the duties of citizenship within 3 ^{months}_{years} or when I should receive a foreign appointment, being a specialist in tropical medicine will apply for permission to continue temporary foreign (but not Austrian) residence

H. F. Cohen M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this..... day of....., 1935.

IMPORTANT - Use Impression seal.
Form No. P. D. 10

H. B. Henderson
(Agent of the Department of State)

PASSPORT DIVISION

Explaining the photo of my naturalization certificate.

Upon my arrival in Vienna June 22nd 1933 my lawyer in my divorce proceedings demanded for the court a copy of my American naturalization certificate. Having learned in America the advantage of photostatic copies of documents I photographed my naturalization certificate in very much reduced size and handed it over to the court. One copy is in the files of the Ober-Landesgericht in Vienna with my divorce file.

Travelling through countries like New Guinea and Afghanistan I hesitated to take my original naturalization document along and therefore carried a copy of this small picture I made in 1933. I presented same

as means of identification. Mr Janney
the American consul in ^{Calcutta} and
handed it today over to the passport
office.

Inasmuch as the Austrian court demanded
a copy for its files (they still have it) I felt
that making a photo would be O.K.

Washington D.C. 12-4-35.

H. F. Janney M.D.

SWORN TO BEFORE ME.
4th Dec. 1935.

A. B. Hanauer

0315587030

IMMIGRANT WELFARE

R. K. O. BLDG.—ROCKEFELLER CENTER

1270 SIXTH AVENUE

NEW YORK CITY

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Dec. 3, 1935

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley
Chief, Passport Division
Dept. of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Shipley,

This note will introduce
the bearer, Dr. H. F. Erben, an expert
in tropical medicine and a naturalized
citizen of the United States. He is
eager to go to Austria for Christ-
mas without raising the presumption
of expatriation. His scientific research
means that he is out of the United
States much of the time. He is
very eager to discuss his passport problem with you,
as it is somewhat complicated. We shall be
ever so grateful to you for your kindness in advising
him.

We all recall with pleasure your interesting speech
before the National Council on Naturalization and Citizenship. It
was a great pleasure to have met you then. Sincerely yours,
Ellis Island

F820 004 - 1647

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

TO BE GIVEN
TO THE PERSON DESCRIBED

No. 3446093

1890-1900

Male white

Age 35 years

Height 5 ft 8 in

Weight 150 lbs

Color of hair Black

Color of eyes Blue

Color of skin Fair

Place of birth Germany

Place of residence 1000 Broadway, New York City

Occupation Engineer

Married Single

Signature of person described

Signature of official

WALTER S. WILSON
Deputy Assistant Secretary

1900

03 JUL 58 1030

Sub
1126-23 NOV 23 1935

New York Herald-Tribune

Brings 1,000 Monkeys as Research Subjects



Herald Tribune photo—Erben

Dr. Herman F. Erben, research specialist of tropical diseases, who arrived from India on the City of Rayville yesterday, shown with two of his charges to be used for medical research experiments

30 Monkey Skulls Prove Poser For Dr. Erben at Customs Here

He Finally Convinces Officials They're for Research, Brings In 1,000 Surviving Voyage; Keeps Beard Tied Up So Simians Can't Pull It Out

Dr. Herman F. Erben, itinerant research specialist of tropical diseases, ran afoul of a bit of customs red tape yesterday through his admitted carelessness in forgetting to declare thirty monkey skulls that he brought here in huge jars aboard the American pioneer freighter City of Rayville. After a lengthy conference he convinced Federal officials that the skull collection was in the interest of scientific research and that they were "prime heads" selected from the 1,200 monkeys he obtained in India.

For forty-two days out of Calcutta Dr. Erben, an Austro-American physician, was surgeon, nurse, feeder and masseur to his simian charges. Only 9 per cent of them died at sea. He was unperturbed over this percentage, as it gave him the opportunity to conduct autopsies through which he determined and charted scientifically why many of the simian species *macaca rhesus* could not survive a sea journey.

Snapping heavy elastic bands off his great red beard, the research specialist sighed with relief over his temporary freedom in his cabin from the monkeys, as he explained that had he not worn bands the monkeys would have pulled out his beard by the roots.

He said that he had been away from America for more than two years on an Austro-American Trans-Asia expedition. The thousand or more simians he brought here he had bought for "two bits" a head in Assam, India. They would be used, he said, for medical research experiments in New York Hospital, Bellevue and at other research laboratories.

He was reticent concerning his expedition into Persia, French Indo-China, Arabia and India, declining to divulge any of his research findings in connection with tropical diseases, such as black water fever and malaria. He wished first to consult with research specialists here before he made any statements for publication.

Dr. Erben said that he frequently made journeys at sea as ship's surgeon for more than a year in order to save sufficient funds to continue his research work. He appeared elated over the fact that he was able to conduct experiments on the

monkeys, although he had lost more when more than 1,000 died during the passage.

He said he was disturbed over the scores of deaths among the monkey during his first few weeks at sea. He would dash from one case of pneumonia to attend an acute case of infantile paralysis. But they kept on dying despite the fact that he had one hospital rigged for those suffering from minor ailments cured by a large dose of paregoric, and another "contagious" ward.

Then he decided to give 200 monkeys the freedom of the ship for several hours each day. He said the monkeys loved this liberty, but that in some cases they abused the privilege. They would try to man the ship from the bridge. When they were chased off, they dashed to the crow's nest and to the main truck. The seamen got so they didn't mind the simians stealing their grub. But two of the monkeys were "given solitary" for several days when they tried to steal an officer's pair of trousers.

Meanwhile, when not making his nightly or daily rounds of the simians' "sick bay," Dr. Erben worked exhaustively over the autopsies. His research showed that of the ninety-one dead monkeys he examined under the microscope, 30 per cent died of pneumonia; a similar percentage were victims of dysentery; 50 per cent died "from bites" of other monkeys, including three deaths from lockjaw, and the balance died from injuries.

"I was fascinated to discover many neurological cases where brain disease had been responsible for their deaths," he said as he replaced his elastic beard protectors. "Now I shall have time to study the brains that I have kept intact in the skulls. Very fascinating work, indeed. It showed definitely that there was something wrong with their reflexes."

Before making his rounds with his medical kit, Dr. Erben asked somewhat wistfully if any American medical units were going to Ethiopia. "I should be delighted to volunteer, either with the Italian or the Ethiopian forces, as there is so much greater opportunity to experiment in times of battle than in hospitals," he remarked.

FILED
NOV 28 1935

03 JES 870 300

November 13 1935

In reply refer to
130-Erben, Hermann Frederick

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of Labor and states that this Department has received information that Hermann Frederick Erben, a naturalized American citizen, is being deported from India to the United States and that he is due to arrive in New York on November 19, 1935, on the Steamship "City of Rayville".

The American Consul at Calcutta has reported that Dr. Erben had in his possession a post card size photograph of his naturalization certificate. The Consul stated that Dr. Erben had informed him that he had a number of copies of the photograph and also had a plate from which additional copies could be made. The Consul stated that he would endeavor to take up the copy of the naturalization certificate, and if it is received, it will be transmitted to the Department of Labor. According to information submitted to this Department, Dr. Erben was naturalized on November 10, 1930, by the United States District Court at San Francisco, California.

F820004-1650

- 2 -

California, and was issued certificate of naturalization No. 3446093.

Enclosure:
Copy of this communication.

03 JUL 1964

A true copy of
the signed
mail

PD:AJN:ERH

November 18 1935.

NOTED IN PD SUBJECT

James B. Young, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Vienna, Austria.

Sir:

With reference to the Department's instruction to your office of September 24, 1934, replying to despatch No. 1526 of August 9, 1934, concerning the case of Hermann Frederick Erben, and authorizing that Dr. Erben be provided with a passport valid only for his journey to this country, the Department has subsequently received a number of reports from American consular officers concerning the activities of Dr. Erben. In connection with one such report there was transmitted the letter which was addressed by Consul Francis R. Stewart to Dr. Erben on November 16, 1934, a copy of which in translation is enclosed. The Department is unable to understand why such a document was given to Dr. Erben in view of its specific authorization to your office to provide him with a passport valid only for his journey to the United States, and especially since your office had knowledge of the fact that Dr. Erben had been suspected of trafficking in narcotic drugs. While it is stated in the letter that it "has no value as a passport", it nevertheless appears to have been used as a travel document.

The

-2-

The Department considers that the issue of such a letter was particularly unfortunate, especially in view of the fact that its subsequent use appears to have served to enable Dr. Erben to travel in a number of foreign countries. Moreover, in view of the information contained in despatch No. 1633 of December 11, 1934, concerning his alleged illegal political activities in Austria, the finding among his effects of the passport which Dr. Erben had stated in an affidavit of August 8, 1934, had been lost, his possession of a valid Austrian passport, and his apparent intention of going to the Soviet Union instead of returning to the United States, the Department is unable to understand why an effort was not made to have Dr. Erben return the letter of November 16, 1934, or why it was not at least reported to the Department that such a letter had been issued. It may be added that it has subsequently come to the attention of the Department that Dr. Erben was found to be in possession of two Austrian passports, one of which expired on August 18, 1935, and the other of which continues to have a validity until some time during the year 1940.

In the future no such letter as was issued to Dr. Erben should be issued to any American citizen. Passports are the only documents of travel which consular officers are authorized to issue.

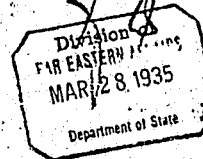
Very truly yours,

For the Secretary of State:

Enclosure:
Copy of letter
130- Erben, Hermann Frederick

FD:JJS:MVD 11/14

F820004-1653



March 27, 1935

To the American Consul General,
Vienna, Austria.

The Department refers to your despatch No. 1633 of December 11, 1934, concerning the case of Hermann Frederick Erben and encloses for your information a copy of a letter from Mr. Erben dated March 5, 1935.

In view of the circumstances of Mr. Erben's case the Department does not feel warranted in issuing a passport to him except for his immediate return to the United States. Such passport should not, of course, be issued unless and until he surrenders the seaman's identity certificate which is in his possession. It may be added that the Department is still interested in obtaining information regarding Mr. Erben's plans for returning to the United States.

Enclosure:
Copy of letter.



R.B.S.

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick



Dept. of State
Passport division
Washington D.C.

Re:

Hermann F. Erben
application for renewal
of passport

[Signature]

130 - ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

I migrated on February 10th 1924 study and
legally admitted, on the S.S. Espanya via New York to the
U.S. On November 10th 1930^{was} naturalized in the U.S.
District court at San Francisco, Cal. Certificate No 34465.
I was given an American passport No 9486 in San Fran-
cisco on November 15th 1930.
Being a ship surgeon and specialist in tropical
medicine, I accepted an appointment by the Government
of California as San Francisco and went to work.
I left San Francisco December 1930 and
returned April 1931 to San Francisco. As I had not seen
my mother for a long time, I took a trip to Vienna
and arrived in Vienna May 22nd 1931. After a stay of
exactly 14 days in Vienna I returned back home to
America on the S.S. Margaret Johnson arriving in
San Francisco on Saturday July 18th 1931. I was given
an appointment by the U.S. Company and took
charge of the S.S. "President Garfield" on September 8th
1931. I acted ship surgeon on the Dollar line, command
the World Service, S.S. "Pres. Garfield" continuously until
August 1932. In August 1932 the sickness of my
wife Claire Erben, at that time in New York, demand-
ed my return to Europe. I accompanied Mrs. Erben
on the S.S. "Latham" (round voyage) to Europe
arriving in Vienna on the 29th of August 1932.
At that time the sickness of Mrs. Erben was cured.

F820004-1655

a prolonged stay in Vienna and so I was not able to return back home to America until November 4th 1932. I therefore stayed on this second visit to Vienna since my naturalization exactly 2 months and 14 days. I returned again in my capacity as shipwreckman to the United States on the # liner S.S. Ben. Garfield, arriving in New York on Dec. 22nd 1932.

On January 10, 1933 I had my American passport renewed in San Francisco Cal.

On January 11th 1933 I sailed from the port of San Francisco on the S.S. Tatsuta Maru to the Far East, as I had an appointment to the research work in New Guinea. Upon completion of my work in New Guinea, I returned via Sing to Europe arriving in Vienna on June 23rd 1933.

This time I had to return to Vienna to get my divorce from Mrs. Eber. My hopes of being able to return within a few months did not materialize. I lost the suit against Mrs. Eber the first time. I had to wait the legal period until I could sue again and finally got my divorce. This, together with the entire family difficulties delayed my return to the United States until the present day. I have therefore remained in Vienna, as my absence would have postponed my divorce again and necessitated one more expensive trip to Europe. The illness of Mrs. Eber on the other hand made it impossible for us to gain our divorce in America. I have therefore been forced to stay away from my home in San Francisco for the last 20 months. I should naturally like to return home by the shortest way, I applied on an American passport, but the time

As I have lost my passport F820-004-1656
which is in the vicinity of Vienna on June 18th 1934.
By some mystery this passport was not lost at all,
but showed up in an old trunk. I immediately
notified the American consulate in Vienna first
about my supposed loss and then upon its official
return and had same properly cancelled and
is now in my possession duly cancelled.

I have now the unique opportunity to go in
the Trans Asia Motor Expedition, sponsored by the
University of Vienna and act as expeditionary mem-
ber. The expedition is scheduled to leave Vienna
at the last days of March 1935 and will arrive
after crossing Asia and the Pacific around Decem-
ber 1, 1935 in San Francisco. As this expedition gives
me a very interesting opportunity to continue the
work of tropical medicine, I have been waiting for the
University of California in San Francisco, Cal.
I herewith wish to apply for a passport to return
via the Far East home to America.

I wish to recollect that since my naturaliza-
tion I have spent on 3 different occasions time
in Vienna:

- I. in 1931 in May" exactly 14 days
- II. in 1932 August - November exactly 2 months and 10 days
- III. in 1933 since June exactly 20 months

Whilst my first trip in 1931 was mere visiting
my old mother, my second trip was made necessary
to upbraid my ill wife, as she was unable to travel
alone. My third trip was made very unfortunately
possible, as it was impossible to gain my
passport and still the old man, by the way it is in a good
condition, in a better time.

F820004-1658

September 24, 1934

To the American Consul General,
Vienna, Austria.

The Department has received your despatch
No. 1526 of August 9, 1934, transmitting a passport
application executed by Hermann Frederick Erben.

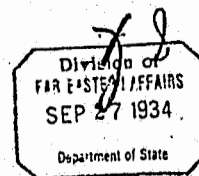
With reference to your comment concerning Mr.
Erben's residence in Austria, you are informed that
Mr. Erben obtained a renewal of his passport at the
Passport Agency at San Francisco, California, on
January 10, 1933. He stated in his application there-
for that he spent a few weeks in Austria in 1931 and
a few weeks there during 1933. You are authorized to
provide Mr. Erben with a passport valid for his
journey to this country upon the payment of the usual
passport fee and may inform him that he can take up
with the Department the matter of obtaining an ex-
tension thereof upon his arrival in this country.
You should endeavor to obtain from Mr. Erben informa-
tion regarding his plans for travelling to the United
States and should inform the American consul at the
port of embarkation that a cablegram should be sent
to the Department when Mr. Erben sails, giving the
name of the ship upon which he embarks and the

...scheduled date and port of its arrival in the United
States.

F820004-1659

-2-

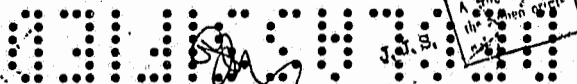
States. The cost of the cablegram should be charged to the Treasury Department.



Enclosure:
Copy of this instruction.

130- Erben, Hermann Frederick

PD:AJN:SMJ.
mvd



F820 004 1660

Form No. 176-B
Revised July, 1930

ISSUE APPROVED

Date _____

Consul _____
Place _____

Application for Passport

Application for Registration
(Indicate plainly which is desired)
[FORM FOR PERSONS CLAIMING
CITIZENSHIP THROUGH
NATURALIZATION]

PASSPORT ISSUED

Date _____
No. _____
Expires _____
Consul _____
Place _____

I, Herman Frederick Erben, a citizen of the United States, solemnly swear that:
 I was born at Vienna, Austria, on November 15, 1897.
 I am now residing at 19 Arenberggasse, Vienna, Austria.
 I emigrated to the United States, on or about February 10, 1924; I resided continuously in the United States
 from 1924 to 1933 at San Francisco, California.

(This block not to be filled in if applicant claims citizenship through naturalization of parent or husband)

I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the District Court
 of United States at San Francisco, California Nov. 10, 1930.
 (District, State, Court No. 3446093) (City and State) (Month) (Day) (Year)

I have resided outside the United States since my naturalization at the following places for the following periods:

Austria from visiting about two weeks in 1931
 (Name each country and length of stay in each) (Departure from U.S.)
Vienna, Austria from June 1933 to date
 (Return to U.S.)

I last left the United States on May, 1933, and intend to return thereto to reside permanently within
 (Date)
three months or, when passport received
 (Years)

My legal residence is at San Francisco, CaliforniaMy father, Herman Erben was born in Znaim, Czechoslovakiaand is now residing at died in 1919

* I was (never married) June 15, 1920 to Clara Gottschalk
 (last married on) (Date, if ever married) (Name in full)
 who was born at Leipzig, Germany, and is now residing at

Vienna, Austria (was divorced on December 1, 1933)
 (Give present address. If deceased, give date of death)

(This block not to be filled in if applicant was naturalized in own right)

My (father) was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the --- Court of ---
 at --- on ---, 1, ---; he resided continuously in the United
 (City and State) (Month and day) (Year)
 States, from 1 to 1, at ---
 (Place(s) of residence in the U.S.)

I request the inclusion of my wife --- (Repeat name in full)She acquired citizenship through --- (To be filled in if wife is citizen otherwise than through birth in the United States or marriage to applicant)

I request the inclusion of my minor children as follows: (If born prior to parent's naturalization, state periods of residence in the U.S.)

--- born at --- on ---, 1, residing at ---
 (Name in full) (Place and State or country) (Date)
--- born at --- on ---, 1, residing at ---
--- born at --- on ---, 1, residing at ---

I have not taken an oath of allegiance to, or been naturalized as a citizen or subject of, any foreign state.
 I solemnly swear that the statements herein made are true.

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies,
 foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely, without any
 mental reservation or purpose of evasion; So help me God.

(SEAL)

Fee for passport, \$9.00.

Fee for administering oath

and fee for registration

No fee for registration.

Service No. ---SWORN to before me this eight day of August, 1934at San Francisco, Californiaof the United States at Vienna

Austria

A woman applicant who has been married more than once should give name and place of birth of each husband, date of each marriage, and date of termination of previous marriage(s) through death or divorce

VIENNA, AUSTRIA

1-11574



FE20004-16811 UN OF APPLICANT
Sex Male Height Six feet 1 inches

Hair light brown Eyes blue
Distinguishing marks or features Scar on left cheek and right thumb

Place of birth Vienna, Austria

Date of birth November 15, 1897

Occupation ship-surgeon

EVIDENCE OF CITIZENSHIP AND IDENTIFYING DOCUMENTS
Passport No. 9486 San Francisco, Ser. of Nov. 15, 1930

by Dept. of State
to applicant, (reported as lost) } SUBMITTED.

(State name and relationship)
State disposition of passport

Other evidence of citizenship and identifying documents submitted, as specified below: (Indicate whether sent to the Department, retained in files of office, or returned to applicant.)

Naturalization certificate
Affidavit re. loss

If passport is applied for, specify below COUNTRIES TO BE VISITED and purpose of visit:

Austria-Germany-
Return to the United
States

REFERENCES Dr. Emmett Allen, 909 Hyde Street, San Francisco, Cal.
(Name) (Address)

(See Consular Regulations, Par. 156, Note 1)

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be the person he represents himself to be, and that he is a citizen of the United States; that the statements made in the applicant's affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further, I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for _____ years.

(Signature of witness)

(Residence address of witness)

[SEAL]

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN to before me this _____ day of _____, 19____.

If no American citizen is available, an alien known to the consulate may execute the affidavit.

Consul _____ of the United States of America at _____

The applicant requests that the following person be notified in the event of his death or disability:

Dr. Fritz Erhen, XIII Cumberlandstrasse 11, Vienna, Austria.
(Name) (Address)

Additional data: Location of real and personal property, nature and place of investments, location of will, et cetera. (It is entirely optional with the applicant to give this information.)

Registration {approved} by the Department of State on _____ (Date)

Certificate of registration issued to the applicant on _____

(Initials of consular officer)

The Department will assume that the consular officer forwarding the application to the Department for authorization for issue of passport is fully satisfied as to the applicant's identity, unless a notation to the contrary appears hereunder. (See Consular Regulations, Par. 156, Note 1.)

REMARKS

Passport will be forwarded to office taking application unless notation to the contrary is made hereunder.

OPTIONAL FORM OF RECEIPT

Date _____

Received American passport No. _____ Issued by the American Consulate.

at _____
(Signature of recipient)

F820004-1662

I, the undersigned, Herman Frederick Erben, solemnly swear that I was born in Vienna, Austria, on November 15, 1897, that I emigrated to the United States in 1924 and was naturalized as an American citizen on November 10, 1930 (Certificate No. 3446093), that my occupation is ship surgeon, last working for the Dollar Line, San Francisco, California, that on or about November 15, 1930, I applied for and was granted American passport No. 9486-San Francisco Series, dated November 15, 1930, which was renewed in San Francisco, California, on January 10, 1933, under number 392; that in June 1933 I came to Austria for the purpose of visiting relatives and doing post-graduate medical work; that on June 19, 1934, I took a ride on a bicycle in the neighborhood of Vienna and the passport, which I was then carrying with me must have dropped out of my pocket. I reported the loss to the police at Biedermannsdorf and in Vienna, but the passport has not been found.

I now desire to return to the United States and therefore request that a new passport be issued to me.

Herman F. Erben M.D.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
eighth day of August 1934.

Francis R. Stewart
Francis R. Stewart
American Consul

Service No. 2838

03 AUG 1934

REFUSAL

ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

Name

Place and date of birth Vienna, Austria, Nov. 15, 1897.Place of residence Am. SS "West Notus".Number and date of last passport No. 12, Jan. 19, 1931, at
Montevideo, Uruguay.

Reason for refusal

See 893.114 Narcotics/475

Index bureau number

130-Erben, Hermann Frederick
893.114 Narcotics/475

Date of this record

4/6/33R. B. Shipley

Chief.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1938 1-1032

*No Card Record
IN Computer*

B. T. COLEMAN

MAY 23 1979

APR 11 1933

FILED

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

0311587030

REFUSAL

ERBEN, DR. HERMAN FREDERICK (VON ERBEN)
 Name
 Place and date of birth Vienna, Austria, Nov. 15, 1897
 Place of residence
 Number and date of last passport 12, 1/19/31 - Montevideo
 Reason for refusal
 See Confidential List No. 249 Narcotics 1932
 Aliases
 A bound volume of this list in Room 168.
 Index bureau number 130 - Erben, Dr. Herman Frederick (Von Erben)
 Date of this record February 1933

R.B. Shipley

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1925 1-1032

Chief

PD:AJN:EH

No card record
 in Computer

B. T. COLEMAN

MAY 23 1979

DEC - 6 1933

FILED

AUG 23 1934

03115587030

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PASSPORT

I hereby declare that—

RECEIVED THE RECORDS
19 1933

Erben, J. Hermann
(Surnames) (Given name) (Middle name)
(To be PRINTED by the person who asks for "Verkauf")

The form on this side is used by a native citizen who is unmarried, by a native citizen who is married to a native citizen, and by a native man if his wife is foreign born and her name is NOT INCLUDED in his passport.

820 004 - 1666

Regular Series No.

Passport No.

Issued

(Do not fill in above)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

APPLICATION FOR RENEWAL OF PASSPORT

In conformity with the Rules and Regulations prescribed by the President and the Secretary of State, pursuant to law, I, the undersigned, hereby apply for a renewal of the period of validity of my passport, the number and date of which appear above:

I hereby declare that I { am a native-born citizen of the United States.
was born abroad of American parents.

I further declare that I was { never married.
married on

(Insert date of marriage)

and that my { wife
husband } is a native citizen of the United States.
(Strike out above line if never married)

My marital status { has not been terminated.
was terminated by (death) (divorce) in the year

(Date)

Portion in this block must be filled in if marriage took place on or after September 22, 1922

My (wife's) maiden name was _____, and (I) (she) { was
previously married on _____ (Name)
(Date of each previous marriage)

My { former husband, _____ was born
Her { (Full name of former husband)
at _____, and { he died
(City and State or country) we they } were divorced on _____ (Date)

(This additional portion to be filled in by a TEACHER if passport was issued between July 3, 1926, and July 1, 1928)

I have followed the profession of teaching since prior to July 1, 1930, and derive an income by carrying on such vocation at _____
(Name and address of school)

My duties consist of _____

I have been granted Sabbatical leave beginning on _____ (Date) and terminating
on _____ (Date) by the officers of the above-named institution.

I have retired from the profession of teaching and I am now receiving a teacher's pension from _____
(Name and address of school or institution from which pension is received)

Since my retirement I have not taken up any other profession or employment.

I am domiciled in the United States, and at present am in the United States, residing at _____ (Street
address)

City of _____, State of _____ (Street
address)

(Names of countries to be visited) (Object of visit)

I intend to leave the United States from the port of _____ (Port of departure)

sailing on board the _____ (Name of ship), ON _____, 193 _____ (Date of departure)

(Signature)

(I hereby declare that I personally affixed my signature appearing above)

(DO NOT USE THIS SPACE)

Application and passport submitted for Department's consideration by _____ Agency, on _____ (Date)
(Initials of agency)

Renewed by _____ Agency, on _____ (Date)
(Initials of agency)

For one of the following lines, striking out the other:
For _____ years from _____ date of expiration.
For _____ day of _____, 193 _____
(If above line if renewal is for only a few months or weeks)

(Agent, Department of State)

Please mail passport to { above
following } address:

Street _____

City _____

State _____

(DO NOT USE THIS SPACE)

\$2.00 fee received by _____ (Initials)
{ att
dep.

F820 004 - 1667



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PASSPORT AGENCY
217 CUSTOMHOUSE BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

*file
arr
17/1/31*

August 13, 1931

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

file

*file
Erben
8/18*

130-ERBEN, HERMAN F.

Referring to your letter 24 April 1931 concerning two valid travel documents held by Doctor HERMAN F. ERBEN,

I am returning herewith service passport No. 12 issued to Dr. Erben by the Consul General in Montevideo 19 January, 1931, for cancellation, together with the statement of Dr. Erben as to why he had to obtain that passport.

Sincerely yours,

W. A. Newcome

W. A. NEWCOME,

Passport Agent

✓ 9/8/31

REC-1731

03115081931

RECEIVED
SEP 3 1931
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE
SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco T-2-3T.

To whom it may concern:

As regards to the 3 travel documents issued to me since November 1930 I wish to state as follows:

After my naturalisation on November 10th 1930 I applied for and received an american passport at the San Francisco passport agency. I furthermore turned in my alien seaman's protection certificate and received for same my american seaman's protection certificate. I send my american passport as proof of american citizenship to Louisiana in order to receive my permanent medical license to practice as a physician and surgeon in this State. According to the laws of Louisiana, aliens are awarded only temporary licenses and requested to apply immediately after ~~completion of their~~ citizenship for permanent license, submitting

divulgence of citizenship ^{FOIA 00471669} provoked
my american citizenship by revoking
my passport to Louisiana. Before the
return of said passport, I left for the
University of California on the Ab²
Louis R. Hamer "West-Notes" for South
America. I had orders to go to Asuncion
in Paraguay on behalf of the Univer-
sity of California. Upon arrival in
Montevideo, the argentine government
refused me a visa to travel in argentine;
the paraguayon consul likewise, decla-
ring that a seaman's protection certificate
could not be looked upon as a travel
document. As my passport was in
Louisiane, I went to the U.S. consulate
with my written order to proceed to
Asuncion and asked him, what I
should do in order to satisfy south-
american authorities. The consul general
in Montevideo upon presentation of
my seaman's protection certificate
and certificate of birth, ~~which~~ ^{which} issued
me a american passport. With this

passport I received in Paraguay.
 Upon return in San Francisco on
 April 6th 1831 I naturally found
 my first american passport, which
 had served as proof of citizenship in
 Louisiana and which in the mean-
 time had been returned to my
 address in San Francisco. This is the
 explanation how I happened to
 get 2 american passports, one in San
 Francisco in November and the
 other in Montevideo in January 1831.
 The seaman's protection certificate is
 by foreign authorities not rated as
 a travel document, gives me no
 right to travel inland. Is on the
 other hand necessary to proof my
 status as a bona fide american seaman.

Hoping that this deposition
 which I herewith swear to and de-
 clare under oath will fully explain
 the case I remain most respectfully
 H. F. P. Chen M.D.

The reason why I did ^{FOI 004-1674} mention ^{specifically} at
the consulate in Montevideo the
fact that a passport had been issued
me in San Francisco was, that my
citizen paper had been stamped by
the San Francisco passport agency to
that effect & the counsel therefore
knew about me having a passport
issued by San Francisco passport
agency, without me specifically repeating it.

H. F. Phipps M.D.

He might have inadvertently over-
looked the stamp on naturalization
certificate as he never mentioned it.
Also I was not familiar whether I
should mention fact to counsel
as I did not know regulations as re-
gards holding one or more passports.

H. F. Phipps M.D.

031507/000

F820 004-1672



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PASSPORT AGENCY
217 CUSTOMHOUSE BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

*file
on
7/22/31*

June 15, 1931

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

Referring to your letter 24th April (130- Erben, Herman F).

I find that Doctor Erben has been in Europe since the receipt of your letter. His wife tells me as soon as he returns, he will call at the Agency and clear up the matter to the Department's satisfaction.

Doctor Erben is quite a distinguished medical man. He is attached to the University of California and is a member of the Pacific Institute of Tropical Medicine.

I feel confident as soon as he returns to San Francisco he will call at the Agency, as requested, and turn in one of the travel documents which he has obtained.

You will be promptly advised of the result of his call when he returns.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
W. A. NEWCOME,

Passport Agent

130-ERBEN, HERMAN F

JUL 25 1931

03 JUL 25 1931

F820 004-1673

In reply refer to
130 - Erben, Herman F.

APR 24, 1931
APR 24 1931

Dear Mr. Newcome:

The Department encloses herewith copies of correspondence to and from the Consulate General at Montevideo, Uruguay, in the case of Herman F. Erben which are self-explanatory. You are requested to endeavor to communicate with Mr. Erben and obtain from him an affidavit concerning the disposition made of the passport No. 9486 which was issued to him by your office on November 15, 1930, and also why he made no mention of the fact that such a document had been issued to him in connection with his application for the service passport which was issued to him on January 19, 1931, by the Consulate General at Montevideo. You should also explain to Dr. Erben that it is contrary to the existing regulations for a person to be in possession of

Mr. William Newcome,

Passport Agent,

217 Customhouse,

San Francisco, California.

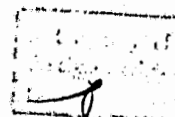
- 2 -

of two valid travel documents and he should either surrender his passport or his seaman's protection certificate which, it appears, was issued to him on November 15, 1930, for transmission to the Department.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures:

Copies of correspondence from
and to the Consulate General
at Montevideo, Uruguay.



R. B. S.

PD:AMC:FR D

amc

eggs

928+

031507000

F820004-1675

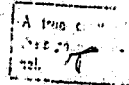
MAY 22 1931

To the American Consul General,
Montevideo, Uruguay.

The Department has received from your office the application upon which service passport No. 12 was issued on January 19, 1931, to Herman F. Erben.

It appears from the records of the Department that passport No. 9486, San Francisco Series, was issued to Hermann Frederick Erben on November 15, 1930. He should be required to state what disposition was made of that passport. Since Mr. Erben makes no reference in his application to the previous passport, the Department desires to be informed of the basis for your issue of an unlimited passport without reference of the case to the Department. Also Mr. Erben should not be in possession of a valid passport and a Seaman's Certificate at the same time. The certificate should therefore be taken up and cancelled.

130-Erben, Herman F.



J. J. E.

03 13 08 70 30
PP:ESP:OMR DE
mm

F820 004 - 1676

Form No. 178
Revised Jan., 1931

Application for Passport

Application for Registration

(Indicate plainly which is desired)

PASSPORT
ISSUEDNo. -12-
Date Jan 19/31

I, Herman F. Erben, (NATURALIZED) citizen of the United States, hereby apply to the Department of State at Washington, American Consulate General, Montevideo, for a passport for myself to visit the following countries:

All Latin American countries

for the following purposes:

I was born at (city or town) Vienna (country) Austria on Nov. 15, 1897

My last marital relation terminated on _____ My husband resides at _____ (If marital relation exists)

my (father) (Name) H. Erben, was born in Austria on deceased, 1, _____I emigrated to the United States from Vienna, Austria, on or about Mar. 10, 1924I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States, as shown by the Certificate of Naturalization (exhibited) herewith, on Nov. 10, 1930, 1, _____before the Northern Court of U.S., at (City) San Francisco, (State) California, Dist. I am, the (child of) (identical) person described in said certificate; my (father) (mother) (husband) (wife) is now residing at deceased

for the purpose of _____

I am the bearer of passport No. _____, issued to me by _____, on _____, 1, _____

I resided in the United States from March 10, 1924, to Dec. 6, 1930, 1, _____; (excepting as hereinafter noted), principally at San Francisco, Calif. legal residence is at San Francisco, Calif.

I have resided outside of the United States at the following places for the following periods:

Montevideo, Uruguay from Jan. 13, 1931, 1, _____, to date, 1, _____

from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

I last left the United States on Dec. 6, 1930, and have temporarily resided at Am. S.S. "West Notus"Dec. 6, 1930, 1, _____, for the purpose of ship's physician on behalf of Am. S.S. "West Notus"I intend to return to the United States to reside permanently, within four (months) or (years) _____

I have since my naturalization as an American citizen always held myself out as such, and have not taken an oath of allegiance to, or been naturalized as a citizen of subject of, any foreign state.

I last applied for (a passport) (registration) to the Department of State at Washington, American Consulate General, Montevideo, on _____, 1, _____, and my application was (approved) (disapproved).

**I desire to have included in my passport my wife and minor children hereinafter named. I was last married on _____, 1, _____, to (name of wife or husband) _____, who was born at (town, province, country) _____, on _____, 1, _____.

My wife has resided abroad since our marriage, at the following places for the following periods:

from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

and acquired citizenship through _____

(Name of child) _____ (Place of birth) _____ (Date of birth) _____

(Present residence) _____ (Resided in United States) from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

(Name of child) _____ (Place of birth) _____ (Date of birth) _____

(Present residence) _____ (Resided in United States) from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

(Name of child) _____ (Place of birth) _____ (Date of birth) _____

(Present residence) _____ (Resided in United States) from _____, 1, _____, to _____, 1, _____

I (do not) submit American income tax returns to the Collector of Internal Revenue at _____

My total annual income is (less than) (over) the limit which would require me, under existing regulations, to submit such returns.

I solemnly swear that the statements herein made are true.

*To be filled in by women applicants only. **Delete this sentence if registration is desired or if members of family are not to be included in passport. 1 Draw line through these spaces if wife has not had a separate foreign residence.

THE COPY OF THIS FORM BEARING CANCELED ONE DOLLAR FEE STAMP TO BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT.

F820 004-1677

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Further, I do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I take this obligation freely without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion: So help me God.

[SEAL]
 Fee for passport, \$8.00
 Fee for administering oath and preparing passport application, \$1.00.
 No fee for registration.
 Service No. 33-34

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19th day of JANUARY, 1931



Vice Consul _____ of the United States at _____

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

Height: 6 feet, _____ inches.
 Hair: Brown Eyes: Blue
 Distinguishing marks or features: Scar on left cheek and right thumb.
 Place of birth: Vienna, Austria
 Date of birth: November 15, 1897.
 Occupation: Doctor of Medicine

Identifying documents submitted as follows: (Indicate whether sent to Department, retained in files of office, or returned to applicant.)

Naturalization certificate No. 3446093 issued Nov. 10, 1930, by Northern District U.S. Court, San Francisco, Calif.; Seaman's Protection (see below X).

REFERENCES: Bernhardt Gröbl, Master, Am. S. S. "West Lotus", San Francisco, Calif.
 Dr. A. J. Read, University of California, School of Medicine, Parnassus Ave.,
 (See General Instructions Nos. 936, 967, and 972) Francisco, California.

AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS

I, the undersigned, solemnly swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made in the applicant's affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further, I solemnly swear that I have known the applicant personally for _____ years.

(Signature of witness) _____

(Residence address of witness) _____

[SEAL]

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____ (Date)

If no American citizen is available, an alien known to the consulate may execute the affidavit.

Consul _____ of the United States of America at _____

The applicant requests that the following person be notified in the event of his death or disability:

(Name) _____ (Address) _____
 Additional data: Location of real and personal property, nature and place of investments, location of will, et cetera. (It is optional with the applicant to give this information.)

Registration {approved / disapproved} by the Department of State on _____ (Date)

A certificate of registration _____ issued to the applicant.

Passport will be forwarded to office taking application unless notation to the contrary is made hereunder.

REMARKS

1-1157

A Seaman's Protection certificate No. 1805 issued Nov. 15, 1930, by Col. Foster of Customs at San Francisco, California, which states that bearer is an American citizen.

F820004-1678

Sworn to before me this _____ day

[SEAL OF
PASSPORT
AGENCY]

of _____, 19____

Gordon Noquist
Agent of the Department of State.

DESCRIPTION OF APPLICANT

Height 6 feet, _____ inches. Age 33 years.Hair blond Eyes blueDistinguishing marks or features scar right thumb left sidePlace of birth Vienne, Ind. Date of birth Nov. 15, 1957
(City and State) (Month, day, and year)Occupation Ship EngineerI intend to leave the United States from the port of San Francisco
(Port of departure)sailing on board the unknown on ECOR-35-045
(Name of ship) (Date of departure)
Get ready, 1930)

ADDRESS

I request that my passport be mailed to the following address:

Name A. H. F. Erben M.D.No. and Street St. Joes HospitalCity and State San Francisco, Calif.

(Note: A passport will not be mailed to a hotel unless the hotel is the applicant's place of permanent residence.)

Joseph's Hospital, Buena Vista Hill Ave.,
San Francisco, Calif.AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTIFYING WITNESS
I, the undersigned, do hereby swear that I am a citizen of the United States; that I reside at the address written below my signature hereto affixed; that I know the applicant who executed the affidavit hereinbefore set forth to be a citizen of the United States; that the statements made in the applicant's affidavit are true to the best of my knowledge and belief; further,I only swear that I have known the applicant personally for 2 1/2 years.

(No lawyer or other person will be accepted as witness to a passport application if he has received or expects to receive a fee for his service in connection with the execution of an application or obtaining the passport.)

W. H. Erben (Name of witness) 332 Line

Sworn to before me this _____ day

of _____, 19____

Gordon Noquist
Agent of the Department of State.[SEAL OF
PASSPORT
AGENCY]

ISSUED IN SAN FRANCISCO

San Francisco Office, March _____, 19____



Two photographs _____ to be affixed to the application in the space designated above, and the other, bearing the signature of the applicant, to accompany the application unattached. A group photograph should be used if more than one person is to be included in the passport. Photographs must be on thin paper, should have a light background and be not over 3 by 3 inches nor less than 2 1/2 by 2 inches in size.

*This application will not be valid unless executed in front of a State or Federal court or the jurisdiction.

in front of the Department of State.

PLEASE NOTE.—As the Department has no jurisdiction in case of emergency.

application promptly, inquiry concerning it should

1-1304

9486
115 Nov 1930

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

[EDITION OF 1922]

Department of State, at Washington, for a passport. I solemnly swear that I was born at Villanova
Andria, on Nov. 15, 1897; (that I was married) June 15, 1920. (Place)
 (Country) (Date) (A woman must insert date of each marriage.)

States from 1924 to 1930, at San Francisco, Cal.; [that I was naturalized as a citizen of
(City) (State) (Portion in brackets not to be filled in)]

at San Francisco, Cal. on N=1, 10³, 1930, as shown by the Certificate of Naturalization, No. 1030, issued by the Department of Justice, Bureau of Immigration, at San Francisco, Cal. on 10-10-30.

States, my permanent residence being at St. Joseph Hospital
(Street address) 301

that I have not taken an oath of allegiance to, or been naturalized as a citizen or subject of any foreign state, and that I have resided outside the United States since my naturalization at the following places for the following periods:

..... (Departure from U.S.)
..... from to

is now residing at [he emigrated to the

ates. from: 912 to: 912 at: New York, N. Y.; and was naturalized as a citizen of:

the United States before the _____ (not citizen) _____ (City and
_____ ON _____, 1_____, as shown by the accompanying Certificate of Naturalization.

(Insert Washington, or location of office abroad) (Date)

I am about to go abroad temporarily and intend to return to the United States within 2 months with the purpose of residing and performing the duties of citizenship therein. Exempt

Austria To bring my children to U.S.

	(Name each country to be visited)	
		(Object of visits)

at _____ on _____, and to whom I was married
(Place and State or country) (Date)

[My wife was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the Court of

(City and State) (Month) (Day)

....., from to
(Duplicate from U.S.)

(b)(6) (b)(7)(C) My passport include my name children as follows:

....., born at, residing

1. Primary cause of the fire - electrical short circuit in the wiring.

10-10-68

1. The following information was obtained from the records of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Reclamation, and is being furnished to you for your information:

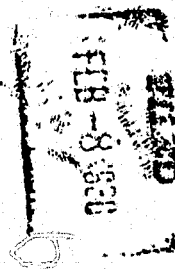
F820 004-1688

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

You will remember that Dr. Erben
traveled through Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan
last year, posing alternately as an
American and Austrian. He entered Iraq
and presumably Iran, on an American
Seamen's certificate but secured an
Austrian passport in Tehran. Luckily
he kept out of trouble until he reached
India but I note that we may see
something more of him in Ethiopia.

130-
ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK



03 JUL 1938

F820004-1681

NO. 1185

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Calcutta, India, January 16, 1936

SUBJECT: Activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE



SIR:

I have the honor to refer to my despatch No. 1083 (File No. 130.8) dated September 19, 1935 regarding the activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben, and in this connection to enclose a copy of a letter recently received from Doctor Erben.

The two letters, one from the Consulate General at Vienna and the other from the Consulate General at Berlin, have been forwarded to the Consulate General at Vienna for transmission to Doctor Erben should that office consider such a course advisable.

Respectfully yours,

Edward M. Groth
Edward M. Groth
American Consul

✓ Enclosure:

From Doctor H. F. Erben
dated December 12, 1935

130.8
EWG/1
00110300

In triplicate

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

1936 MAR 13 PM 1 35

FILED
MAR 18 1936
MAR 17 1936

F820 004-1682

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FS

1-1335

FROM

GRAY

Calcutta

Dated October 18, 1935

Rec'd 4:17 a. m.

Division of
FAR EASTERN AFFAIRS
OCT 18 1935

Secretary of State, Department of State

Washington.

October 18, 1 p. m.

Dr. Herman F. Erben, the subject of this Con-
sulate General's despatch No. 1678, dated September 14,
1935, sailed from Calcutta, October 10, aboard the SS
CITY OF RAYVILLE of the American Pioneer Line due at
New York about November 19.

GROTH

CA:McL

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

FILED

NOV 23 1935 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1935 OCT 18 AM 11 41

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RECORDS SECTION

8-8-34

years.

rd Corres for years.

123 Encl. 1, Herman F. Erben, a.k.a.
Carroll. 9-30-35

130-501. 4-6-33 Sec 892.1147/475

Encl. 6-27-35 Encl. 1, Hermann Frederick

10/18

18

F820004-1683

NO. 1117

AIR MAIL

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Calcutta, India, October 19, 1935

SUBJECT: Activities of Doctor Hermann F. Erben

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to this office's despatch No. 1078 dated September 14, 1935 regarding the activities of Doctor Hermann F. Erben. As was reported in the Consulate General's telegram of today's date, Doctor Erben sailed from Calcutta by the CITY OF RAYVILLE of the Pioneer Line on October 10, 1935. This vessel is proceeding to the United States via the Suez Canal and is expected to arrive in New York about November 19, 1935.

Before Doctor Erben's departure he was informed that this office was authorized to issue a passport limited for his travel directly to the United States. However, he did not desire to pay the passport fee of \$10.00 and was apparently successful in convincing the steamer company of his citizenship status on presentation of an expired canceled passport and his naturalization certificate.

Doctor Erben expressed the intention of proceeding at once to Washington on arrival in the United States in order to apply for a passport which would enable him to return immediately to Europe, ostensibly to investigate

the source

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30-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

NOV 24 1935

File
JFK

lee

Letter to Treasury
11/15-35
File

11/15-35

-2-

the source of information regarding his suspected connection with the narcotic smuggling mentioned by the Austrian Government in a telegram to the Honorary Austrian Consul, Calcutta. While this may be his object in returning abroad, it is believed that his association with the German and Austrian National Socialist Parties and his political activities about which the Department may already have been informed would make his open return to Austria seem impossible. Doctor Erben made no statement which might clearly indicate that he intended to engage in further political activities, although he said that if his difficulties in Calcutta in any way affected his status as an American citizen, there would be nothing left for him to do but to return to Europe "to throw bombs for the Nazi Party".

It might be added that several weeks before Doctor Erben's departure from India, local police authorities permitted him to visit Darjeeling and while there he is understood to have acted in a very suspicious manner in the close presence of the Governor of Bengal. On his return to Calcutta Doctor Erben reported his experiences in Darjeeling and stated that it had given him great satisfaction to have frightened Sir John Anderson by appearing in a church where the Governor, in his capacity as an Elder, was required to serve the Sacrament. He was called up for questioning although not arrested while in Darjeeling.

Throughout the entire period of his sojourn in Calcutta, Doctor Erben constantly called at the Consulate

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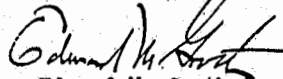
General

-3-

General requesting intervention in and advice on many points. Among these requests were intervention to obtain repossession of his revolver which had been confiscated by the police; to obtain a copy of confidential telegrams from the Austrian Government to its Consul in Calcutta; to prevent newspaper publicity or to endeavor to obtain it; to provide him with a free passage to the United States; to require the master of American vessels to sign him on as a member of the crew; to protest at every step which the police took in investigating his case and bringing him to trial.

These points are merely mentioned to enforce the opinion of the Consulate General that whenever Doctor Erhen travels outside of the United States he is likely to become involved in difficulties with local officials and thereby cause embarrassment to consular officers and the United States Government.

Respectfully yours,



Edward M. Groth
American Consul

Original by air mail to Department
Two copies by steamer-mail to Department
One copy to American Consul, Port Said

130.2

09 05 08 1030

F820004-1686

NO. 1033

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

Calcutta, India, September 19, 1935

SUBJECT: Activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben.

91
THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to refer to Despatch No. 1078 from the Consulate General dated September 14, 1935 regarding the activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben. In continuation thereof there are enclosed as of possible interest to the Passport Division the original letter of the Consulate General, Vienna, addressed to Doctor Erben, which was used both as a passport and as a supporting document to obtain visas in his Seaman's Service Record, and the Seaman's Service Record. Doctor Erben stated that this latter document has a sentimental value and that he will make application to the Department for its return.

It will also be of interest to know that Doctor Erben has in his possession a postcard size photograph of his Naturalization Certificate which this office will endeavor to take up. Doctor Erben stated that he has a number of copies of this photograph and also has a plate from which additional copies may be made.

It is

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

-2-

It is expected that the order for Doctor Erben's deportation from India will be issued in the near future, and he has stated that immediately thereafter he will leave India directly for the United States. The Department will be advised by cable regarding his intended movements.

Respectfully yours,

Rufus H. Lane, Jr.
Rufus H. Lane, Jr.
American Consul

RECORDS
Appl. Cleared _____
No Record Ept. for 11 years.
No Record Corrs. for 15 years.
Previous _____ Cleared _____
Previous _____

R10/17/35
Enclosures:

1. Letter from Consulate General, Vienna, to Doctor Erben
2. Seaman's Service Record.

130.8 FWJ/fj

In triplicate

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5820004-1688

NOTED - 3 1935

In reply refer to
FE 130 Erben, Hermann Frederick

CONFIDENTIAL

Attention: Bureau of Narcotics

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, and, with reference to this Department's letter of October 12, 1935, encloses herewith, in duplicate, for the confidential information of the Commissioner of Narcotics, copies of despatches Nos. 1083, dated September 19, 1935, with a copy of its enclosure No. 1, and 1117, dated October 18, 1935, from the American Consulate General at Calcutta, in regard to the activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben, No. 249 on the Confidential List of persons suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

Enclosures:

From Consulate General, Calcutta,
Nos. 1083, September 19, 1935, with enclosure,
and 1117, October 18, 1935,
in duplicate.

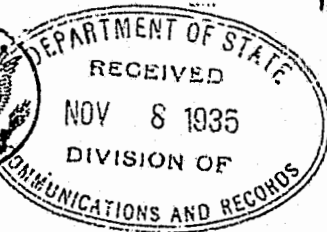
FE:AT

11/6/35

130- ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

A true copy of
the original
file

03 15 07 030



F020 084-1689

LEGATION OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, September 27, 1935.

Dear Mr. Murray:

130 Erben, Hermann

I have your letter under date of September 3rd in regard to the visitation of Dr. Erben to Kabul. Since the date of his arrival in that city I have had three letters from American citizens domiciled in Afghanistan and they report no unpleasant incident in connection with the Doctor's visit. He billed himself while there however, as "a prominent American scientist".

Sincerely yours,

Wm W. Fairbank

Wallace Murray, Esquire,

Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs,

Department of State,

Washington, D. C.

8-8-34

WHE/PSC

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130-Erben, Hermann Frederick
cor 10-18-35

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

FILED
 NOV 8 1935

NOV 13 1935

820004-1690

SECRET

No. 1078

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL
Calcutta, India, September 14, 1935

AIR MAIL

SUBJECT: Activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben.

NOTED IN DEPT. FILE
1-103
FEB 11 1935
THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

Letter to Secretary
11, 1935
Noted in PD
action as to passport
covered
10-10-35

RECEIVED 12 1935

I have the honor to refer to the Department's instruction of September 24, 1934 (File 130.8) addressed to the Consulate General at Vienna, instructing that office to provide Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben with a passport valid solely for his journey to the United States. Reference is also made to communications regarding Doctor Erben and his activities, received from the consular officers in charge at Vienna and Trieste and in connection therewith to submit the following report.

Doctor Erben called at this office on August 27 stating that he had come to pay his respects to the officer in charge and to collect his mail. Several days prior to his arrival here I received a personal letter from my German colleague, who had met Doctor Erben and his Austrian associates in Simla, informing me that he regarded Erben as a suspicious character but stating that he felt his Austrian companions were reliable.

Doctor Erben

03 15 58 10 30

130- ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

Doctor Erben informed me that he had been taken ill in Lahore and that his companions had continued their journey with the understanding that he would catch up with them, traveling by train. He informed me that although he had waited for his companions at Benares, for five days, they had not turned up, hence he had decided to proceed to Calcutta in the hope of finding them here.

Later on the same day Erben returned and informed me that he had called at the Austrian consulate to inquire as to the whereabouts of his colleagues, but without success. In the course of a telephone conversation with my Austrian colleague here, I learned that he had received a telegram from his Government to the effect that Erben is a suspicious character and is suspected of being a narcotic smuggler, and that under no circumstances should he renew the Austrian passport issued to Erben last autumn, which expired on August 18, 1935. The Austrian Government stated that the other two members of the Expedition should be rendered every assistance. My Austrian colleague also stated that upon receipt of telegraphic instructions from Vienna he had informed the police who requested him to instruct Doctor Erben to present himself at Police Headquarters upon his arrival in Calcutta. This request was subsequently transmitted to Doctor Erben at the time of his call at the Austrian consulate. Erben protested that as an ordinary traveler he should not be required to report to Police Headquarters, but when it was explained to him that this is customary

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and that by doing so he would save himself and the members of the Expedition any unpleasantness, he did as requested without further protest.

The following day, Erben called and stated that the police had questioned him as to the method by which he gained admittance into India on an American Seaman's Protection Certificate, which bore no visas. Unasked he then explained that the American consul in Vienna had informed him that the Department had only authorized the issuance of an American passport to him for his direct return to the United States. He further stated that a letter regarding the validity of his Seaman's Protection Certificate had been given to him by the Consulate General at Vienna and that the British Consul General at Vienna had affixed a rubber stamp to it which enabled him to cross the frontier. Erben explained that that rubber stamp was given in lieu of a visa and that with it and his Seaman's Protection Certificate he had been able to secure other visas on a Seaman's Discharge Book which he carried and that thus he was able to cross whatever frontier he came to.

Subsequently I learned that Erben finally established contacts with his Austrian colleagues at the Austrian consulate, much to the latter's annoyance, for they, it seems, had hoped to elude him entirely as they apparently were tired of his company. They found themselves in a difficult position however, as prior to their departure from Europe they had entered into a contract with Erben which it is understood was binding for the duration of the entire journey.

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On the

On the morning of September 4 Erben called at the Consulate General and asked the reception clerk to be good enough to take care of a small package which he would call for later in the day or the following morning. Doctor Erben left in a hurry stating that the clerk need not worry about the package, since it contained nothing of any value and even if it were destroyed by fire it would make absolutely no difference. After his departure the clerk in question informed Vice Consul Jandrey of what had happened. Vice Consul Jandrey informed me and after some deliberation it was decided that due to the suspicious actions of Doctor Erben it would be wise to discuss the matter with the police, although the contents of the package were not known.

The Assistant Commissioner of Police stated that he was well acquainted with the case but he seemed disinclined to believe that the package contained anything of an unusual character. After further discussion Vice Consul Jandrey called personally on the Police Commissioner and in the course of a discussion the matter of Doctor Erben's suspected connection with the drug traffic arose. As previously stated, intimation of this suspicion had already been communicated to the police by the Austrian Consul and Vice Consul Jandrey confirmed the fact that Doctor Erben was included in the list of suspects of the United States Bureau of Narcotics. This information, which had already been mentioned in a previous telephone conversation, seemed to change the attitude of the Police Commissioner who stated that he would send a plain clothes officer to the Consulate General for the purpose of opening the package

-5-

the package which had been left there two hours before, and also that he intended to search Doctor Erben's personal effects which were at the Salvation Army Hostel. A plain clothes officer called at this office later in the morning and opened the box in the presence of several members of the staff of this office. The box was a tin one and of the kind used for packing Kodak films. It was sealed with adhesive tape. On opening the box it was found to contain an automatic pistol, a small box of cartridges, two Austrian passports, one issued by the Austrian authorities in Vienna, the other by the Austrian Legation at Teheran. The validity of the first passport expired on August 18, 1935, that of the other continues until some time during 1940. The police authorities at this point took a more serious interest in Doctor Erben's case and two hours later arrested him.

On September 5 Doctor Erben was brought before the Chief Presidency Magistrate on a charge of possessing without a license a six chambered revolver and twentythree cartridges. He was directed by the Chief Presidency Magistrate to execute a personal bond in the sum of 500 rupees to appear in court on September 10 to answer the charge.

Later in the day Doctor Erben called at the Consulate General to discuss and explain his difficulties with the police. He was informed that the Consulate General considered his action in passing on to it the burden of accepting the custody of unlicensed arms and ammunition in contravention of the laws of British India to be inexcusable. It was pointed out that this office found itself in a very embarrassing position on having to explain

to the

-6-

to the police the presence of these unlawful articles on American Government property. It was further pointed out that as a general rule the Consulate General does not accept the custody of private property, and that if the package in question had been presented to an officer rather than a clerk it would not have been accepted under any condition unless its contents were known and the reason for its deposit bona fide. Doctor Erben expressed great regret on having embarrassed this office and proceeded to explain his action as follows:

He stated that he had not realized when he called that any officers might have been present at 9 o'clock in the morning, since offices in Calcutta generally opened at 10 o'clock, and as he had an appointment at Thos. Cook and Sons at 10 he merely deposited the package with the receiving clerk with the statement that he would call for it later in the day or the following morning. He further stated that he was not aware of the fact that he had committed an offence by not having declared the weapon and ammunition on his arrival in India and added, as a matter of fact, that he had not been questioned by customs authorities either at the time of his entrance at Chaman or at the Khyber Pass. However, the day before he had been informed by someone that he might get into trouble by having in his possession undeclared and unlicensed weapons, and he therefore fully intended to report the matter to the police but had not had the opportunity of doing so. He also added that he was very nervous at the time of his visit because of the fact that a far more serious charge was

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in

in the offing, namely, that of a "dope peddler".

Doctor Erben went on at some length to proclaim his surprise at being considered a narcotic suspect by the police. He stated that his professional position in the United States made him fully acquainted with the dangers of the dope traffic and obviously he could not afford to be associated with a business or with any activities which would jeopardize his professional standing. He then stated that he had called at the Austrian Consulate and that the Honorary Austrian Consul had a telegram before him which was purported to have been sent by the Austrian Government advising that Doctor Erben's passport should not be extended and that he was suspected of being engaged in narcotic smuggling. He stated that one of his Austrian colleagues had admitted sending an air mail letter to the Austrian Government about Doctor Erben's threatened assault on him and about his passport irregularities. The Austrian, according to Doctor Erben, denied that he had mentioned anything about a possible connection with narcotic smuggling. Doctor Erben stated that he fully intended to return to the United States as soon as possible in order to re-establish a residence there, to clarify his citizenship status, which he valued very highly, and then to proceed to Austria immediately, "even if it took his last cent", in order to discover who had been responsible for intimating to the police that he was engaged in drug traffic.

On September 6 Doctor Erben called again at the Consulate General, expressing his intention to trace the source of information given to the police regarding the

suspicion that he was a narcotic smuggler.

He requested

that this

-8-

that this office assist him in this matter by requesting the Austrian Consul to deliver a copy of a certain telegram. Doctor Erben was informed that the Consulate General was not in a position to request that confidential correspondence of a foreign government be turned over to this office so that it might be transmitted to a private individual or exposed in any way. Doctor Erben further stated that he wanted to make a protest regarding his supposed connection with dope traffic. However, it was pointed out to him that, as far as could be gathered from conversations, no accusation had been made by anyone in India, but if he felt that this had been the case, the proper course was to proceed through the local police and the local courts. However, he still seemed to want to make a statement or execute a document and he was informed that if he cared to, such a statement or document would be retained as a matter of record in the files of the Consulate General.

On the evening of September 6, Vice Consul Jandrey met the two Austrian members of Doctor Erben's party at a social gathering. The two boys, one of whom was about 19 and the other 24 years of age, impressed him as being bona fide travelers who were touring Asia under the auspices of an Austrian automobile manufacturer. They stated that Doctor Erben had been imprisoned in both Germany and Austria during the past year due to political activities; that he frequently boasted of the number of people whom he had killed; and that after certain disagreements had arisen, he pointed out to them how easy it would be to tip a coolie in China to commit any desired crime. Both the boys feared for their lives and hoped that Doctor Erben would be unable to accompany them further due to his present difficulties

with the

with the Calcutta police.

On September 10 Doctor Erben was brought up for trial. A member of the staff of this office attended as an observer. Doctor Erben was not represented by an attorney but in his own defence he stated that he had no knowledge that he was required to take out a license in India for his revolver. He added that as a member of the Austro-American Trans-Asiatic Expedition, whose route lay through Iraq, Persia and Afghanistan, he required firearms for his self-protection; that he had traveled for twenty years and was never asked if he had any arms. The question of the possession of weapons at the time of his entrance into India through the Khyber Pass had not arisen and he therefore thought nothing further of the matter. He also stated that on September 4 he had read a travel pamphlet issued by Thos. Cook and Sons in which he observed that it was necessary to take out licenses for firearms in British India. On realizing that he had unlawful goods in his possession, he proceeded to the American Consulate the following morning in order to deposit his revolver and cartridges on American soil. He stated further that, as an educated man, it had never dawned upon him that he must be in possession of a license, when he had seen frontier tribesmen openly carrying guns across the border from Afghanistan and tribal territories into India. He requested that the revolver be returned to him as it had been in his possession for twentyfive years and was of a sentimental value.

The chief Court Inspector informed the court that the Government of India had been approached for the deportation of Doctor Erben as an undesirable foreigner. The magistrate reserved his decision until the following day.

After the

-10-

After the trial Doctor Erben called at the Consulate General to inquire if anything might be done to quash the deportation application which had been sent to the Government of Bengal by the police. However, it was explained to Doctor Erben that he had contravened two of the laws of British India, namely, the passport regulations and the Arms Act and that since these two points were established facts it seemed to be a matter for the Government of India to decide whether or not he was considered to be an undesirable foreigner. Although Doctor Erben was not so informed, the police advised the Consulate General that they would insist upon his deportation since they did not desire to permit him to return to India within five years. Doctor Erben also stated that if he were deported he would make the Government of India pay his deportation expenses. However, he was informed that if the deportation order was so worded that his departure from India would be at his expense, nothing could be done about it.

On September 11 Doctor Erben was sentenced by the Chief Presidency Magistrate to pay a fine of 300 rupees or to serve three months rigorous imprisonment. Doctor Erben stated before the court that as he had committed only a technical offence and was innocent he was prepared to accept the alternative punishment and not pay the fine. The question was not definitely settled there and later Doctor Erben requested one of the police officers to communicate with the Consulate General. At his request Vice Consul Jandrey proceeded to the court and discussed the matter in a very general way. Doctor Erben was of course informed that the choice was entirely up to him,

deportation

and it

-11-

and it was further pointed out that he had involved himself in a great deal of trouble in India and his best course seemed to be to leave the country for the United States at the earliest possible time. Doctor Erben finally decided to pay the fine. He was immediately re-arrested, pending his deportation, under the Foreigners' Act for having entered the country illegally, and was released on a bond of 1000 rupees.

One remark of Doctor Erben's during the course of conversation with him may be of passing interest. In discussing his present difficulty with passport officials, he stated that he was certain that someone had maliciously informed the police of the fact that he was not traveling on a bona fide American passport. He added that things of this kind could not just be found out by the police any more than customs officials in the United States could proceed to the exact spot in a ship where opium was hidden.

Doctor Erben's utter disregard for foreign passport regulations, his unscrupulous methods of obtaining visas, and his possession of two Austrian passports and of a Dollar Line Seaman's Discharge Book which he has so cleverly used as a travel document will undoubtedly interest the Passport Division of the Department. The authority of the Department to issue an American passport for Doctor Erben's immediate return to the United States, which appears in an instruction to the American Consul General, Vienna, is known to this office. However, it is believed that a document of any kind with an official seal on it might be misused by Doctor Erben and it is therefore proposed to allow him to return to the United

States

-12-

States with a canceled expired American passport and his naturalization certificate, should this procedure cause him no undue inconvenience. This office is also aware of the instruction of the Passport Division regarding the procedure to be followed in the case of the deportation of American citizens, but it is felt that even an Emergency Certificate of Identity and Registration might be misused in his hands. The Department will be advised by telegram regarding the date and route of departure of Doctor Erben from India after the deportation order is issued. The documents which Doctor Erben used for the purpose of obtaining visas will be taken up and forwarded to the Department for inspection.

Respectfully yours,

Edward M. Groth
Edward M. Groth
American Consul

Original by air mail to the Department
Two copies by ordinary mail to the Department
One copy to American Consulate General, Vienna
One copy to American Consulate, Trieste

1958
F. J. / 13

F820 004-1702

October 12 1935

In reply refer to
FE 130 Erben, Hermann
Frederick

CONFIDENTIAL

Attention: Bureau of Narcotics

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury, and, with reference to previous correspondence, encloses herewith, in duplicate, for the confidential information of the Commissioner of Narcotics, a copy of despatch No. 1078, dated September 14, 1935, from the American Consulate General at Calcutta, India, in regard to the activities of Doctor Hermann Frederick Erben, No. 249 on the Confidential List of persons suspected of being engaged in the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs.

Enclosure:

From Consulate General,
Calcutta, No. 1078,
September 14, 1935,
(in duplicate)

A true copy
of the
original

FE:AT

FE

PD

10/11/35

F820 004-1703

September 3 1935

Dear Mr. Hornibrook:

I have your letter of July 20, 1935, regarding Dr. Erben.

It seems clear on the basis of the information which you furnish that we can assume a very detached attitude with regard to Dr. Erben's movements now that he is traveling on an Austrian passport. In view of his rather tenuous American ties, however, the Department would be glad to receive any information which may come to you regarding his experiences in Afghanistan.

Sincerely yours,

Wallace Murray

The Honorable

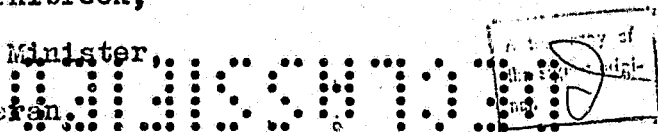
William H. Hornibrook,

American Minister,

Tehran.

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RAH



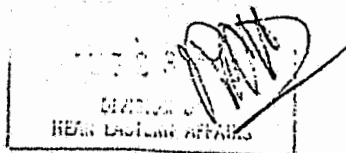


F020 004 - 1704

September 3 1935

LEGATION OF THE

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Teheran, Iran
July 20, 1935*hi*
acc'd 8/31/35
RAH/LS

130 - ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

Dear Mr. Murray:

Referring to certain consular instructions in regard to the movements of Dr. Herman F. Erben who is not enroute to India via Afghanistan, I wish to advise the Division that after I learned of his departure from Teheran via Afghanistan I conferred with the Afghan Ambassador as to the representations made by the former in obtaining a vise.

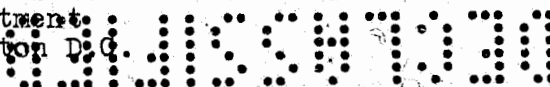
I was advised that he did not pose as an American citizen and submitted for vise an Austrian passport. One of the two Austrians who accompanied him also submitted a very flattering letter of introduction from the Afghan Ambassador to Turkey. Under the circumstances we can assume no responsibility from Dr. Erben in the event that he gets into difficulties while in Afghanistan.

The vise, so the Ambassador informs me, is good only for transit through Afghanistan and is limited to fifteen days. Mr. Barry has advised our Consulate at Calcutta as to the departure of Dr. Erben and the route he proposed to take to his destination.

Sincerely yours,

Wm. H. Hornibrook

WHH:FVH

Wallace S. Murray, Esquire
Chief, Division of Near Eastern Affairs
State Department
Washington D.C.

SEP 6 1935

FILED

SEP 4 1935

FILED

(enc)

F820004-1705

No. 10

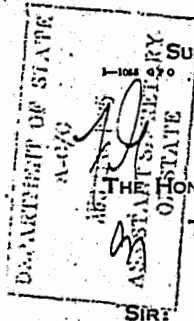
RECEIVED
AMERICAN CONSULATE,
Teheran, Iran, July 20, 1935.

1935 AUG 19 PM 2 35

1935 AUG 19 PM 5 55

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONFIDENTIAL



SUBJECT: Dr. Erben passes through Iran.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

I have the honor to report that Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, who has been the subject of an instruction to the Consulate General at Vienna, Austria, passed through Teheran en route to Calcutta. The American Consul General at Calcutta has been informed.

The Afghan Ambassador informed Minister Hornibrook that an Afghan transit visa was granted to Dr. Erben upon the presentation of a valid Austrian passport.

Respectfully yours,

Burton Y. Berry
American Vice Consul.

130.4
BYB/aa

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130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK THEODORE

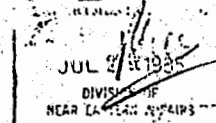
FILED

AUG 27 1935

AUG 26 1935
Copy sent
to Embassy
Am. Leg. Teheran
8-20-35

No. 538

F820004-1706



RECEIVED
DEPT OF STATE

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Jerusalem, Palestine
June 28, 1935

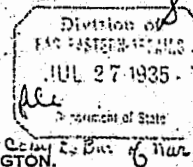
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STRICTLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SUBJECT: Presence in the Near East of Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben

RECEIVED
DEPT OF STATE
JUL 25 PM 51
THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
WASHINGTON



Handwritten: 7-26-35

130-ERBEN, HERMANN FREDERICK

I have the honor to refer to the Department's instruction (File No. 130.8) of September 24, 1934 to the American Consulate General at Vienna relative to Dr. Hermann Frederick Erben, and to a circular letter addressed by the American Consul in Trieste to certain consular officers in the Near East and India with regard to the movements of Dr. Erben, and to report for the Department's information that Dr. Erben arrived in Palestine on 1/- May 5, 1935, and left for Baghdad on May 30, 1935. A report of Dr. Erben's movements while in Jerusalem, prepared by the Criminal Investigation Department of the Palestine Police, enclosed herewith.

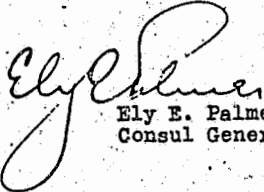
Immediately following the receipt of the circular letter dated April 23, 1935 from the American Consul at Trieste, referred to above, the Consulate General communicated with the Deputy Inspector General of the Criminal Investigation Department who in turn, it is understood, warned his colleagues in Cairo and Baghdad of the possibility of Dr. Erben's arrival within their respective countries in order that his movements might be subjected to surveillance. Following Dr. Erben's departure from Jerusalem, the Consulate General telegraphed to the American Minister Resident and Consul General at Baghdad informing him that/

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that Dr. Erben was en route to Iraq. A communication was likewise sent to the American Minister at Teheran.

As of possible interest in respect to Dr. Erben's projected 3/- trip through the Near and Far East there are enclosed two copies of press items, the first of which appeared on April 21, 1935 in the European Edition of the NEW YORK HERALD TRIBUNE and the second on June 13, 1935 in the PALESTINE POST.

Respectfully yours,


Ely E. Palmer
Consul General

File No. 130.8
JLB/ek

✓
Enclosures as stated

Distribution: Original and one copy to the Department
Copy to the American Consulate General, Vienna
Copy to the American Consulate, Trieste

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